



COLONIAL REPORTS

Basutoland

1952




LONDON: HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

1953

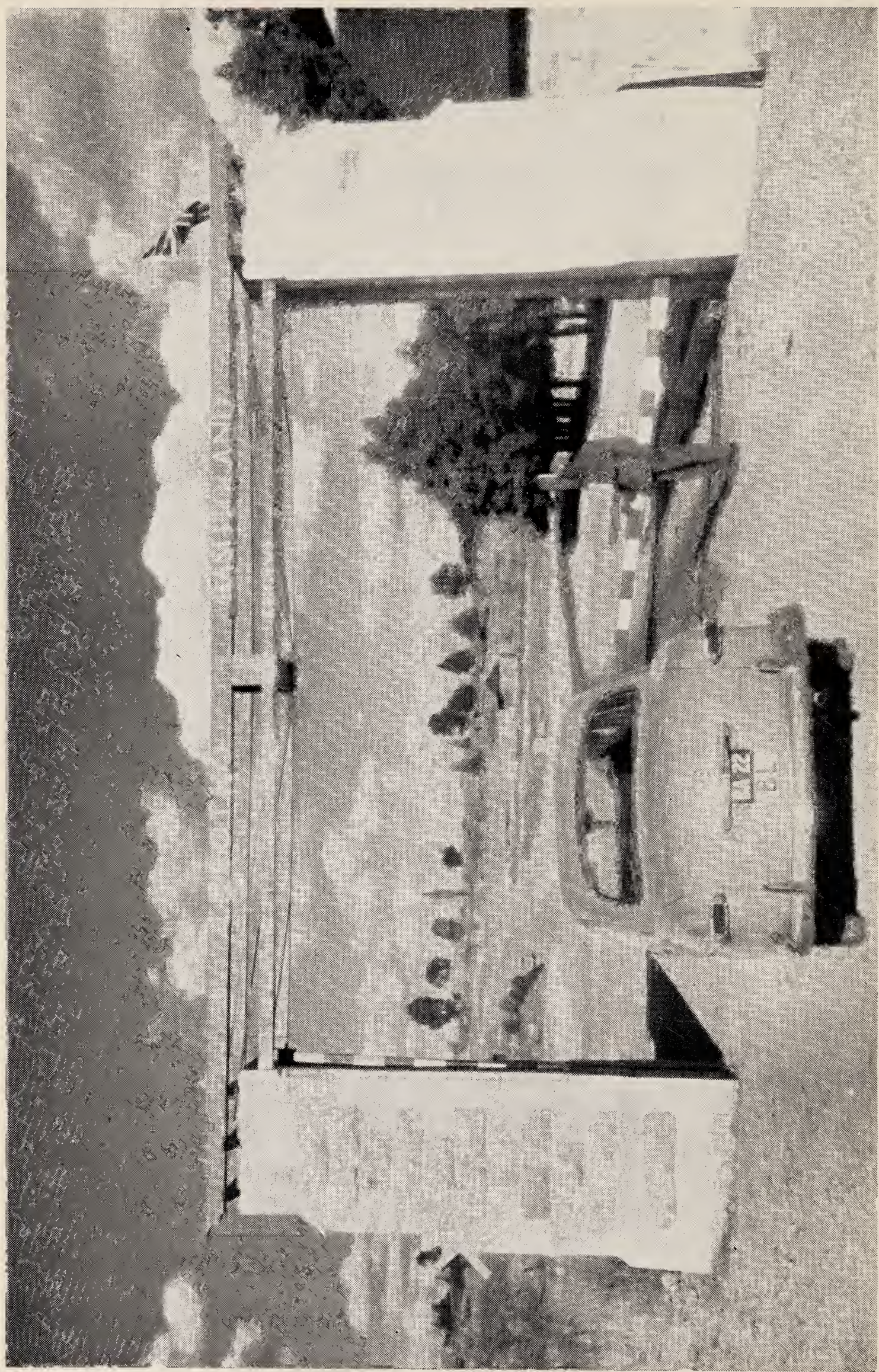


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Basutoland – Enter in Peace

COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS OFFICE

ANNUAL REPORT
ON
BASUTOLAND
FOR THE YEAR

1952

Price 4s.

H. M. S. O.
LONDON

1953

CONTENTS

PART I

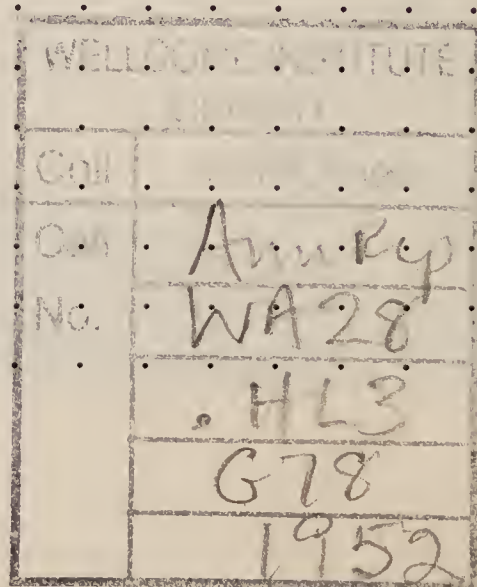
			Page
CHAPTER	I	Review of the main events of the year 1952	1
CHAPTER	II	Development Schemes	8

PART II

CHAPTER	I	Population	12
CHAPTER	II	Occupations, Wages and Labour Organization	14
CHAPTER	III	Public Finance and Taxation	18
CHAPTER	IV	Currency and Banking	26
CHAPTER	V	Commerce	26
CHAPTER	VI	Production:	
		1. Agriculture & Livestock Servicesl	29
		2. Co-operative Societies	34
CHAPTER	VII	Social Services:	
		1. Education	37
		2. Public Health	41
		3. Housing	47
		4. Social Welfare	48
CHAPTER	VIII	Legislation	50
CHAPTER	IX	Justice, Police and Prisons :	
		1. Justice	50
		2. Police	56
		3. Prisons	61
CHAPTER	X	Public Utilities and Public Works	65
CHAPTER	XI	Communications	66
CHAPTER	XII	Press	69

PART III

CHAPTER	I	Geography and Climate	70
CHAPTER	II	Early History	71
CHAPTER	III	Administration	72
CHAPTER	IV	Weights and Measures	75
CHAPTER	V	Reading List	76
MAP OF BASUTOLAND			78
PHOTOGRAPHS by Mr. C. D. Stenton.			



PART I

REVIEW OF THE MAIN EVENTS OF THE YEAR 1952

CHAPTER ONE

I. DEATH OF HIS LATE MAJESTY KING GEORGE VI

Coming as it did while the memory of the Royal Visit to Basutoland was fresh in the minds of the people the news of the death of His Late Majesty, King George VI, on the 6th February, 1952, was received with vivid regret and a profound sense of loss in Basutoland. Messages of the deepest sympathy from the Administration, the Paramount Chief Regent, the Basuto Nation and all sections of the community were submitted to Her Majesty the Queen, who was graciously pleased to reply ; "Please convey to Government and peoples of Basutoland . . . my sincere thanks for their messages of sympathy which I deeply value. Elizabeth." The date of His Late Majesty's funeral — 15th February — was observed as a day of Public Mourning, when memorial services were held.

2. PROCLAMATION OF ACCESSION

At a public ceremony in the capital, Maseru, on the 8th February, the Proclamation of Accession of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second in Basutoland was read and signed by Mr. B.A. Marwick, O.B.E., Acting Deputy Resident Commissioner of Basutoland for and in the absence of the Acting Resident Commissioner and by 'Mantsebo Seeiso, O.B.E., Paramount Chief Regent of Basutoland.

3. FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC POSITION

The budget for 1951-52 predicted a deficit but there was instead a net surplus of £103,566. This was due to record collections of Native Tax, Income Tax, Wool and Mohair Export Duty and Customs and Excise Duties. The reasons for this were largely the world wide demand for wool and the further relaxation of import restrictions imposed by the Government of the Union of South Africa.

The accumulated surplus balance at 31st March, 1952 was £560,422 — the highest it has ever been.

This trend in the financial position is not expected to continue.

The revised estimates for the year ending 31st March 1953 show an estimated deficit of £10,141, though from this figure the sum of £8,754 should be subtracted, being an amount due on account of Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes. The deficit, however, will be due in part to the more normal level of prices for wool and mohair and also to the fact that £26,000 had to be paid out in the form of cost of living allowances in respect of the previous year. These allowances were approved during the year with retroactive effect to 1st September, 1951.

4. AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PRODUCTION

The economic future of Basutoland depends mainly on a stable form of agriculture, including the production of livestock and livestock products.

The year under review has been one of consolidation, development and considerable achievement despite a poor harvest in the south of the Territory. Small localized food shortages were overcome by the internal movement of Basutoland grain and by imports of maize and maize products from the Union of South Africa. A severe food shortage might have materialized but for a very good kaffir-corn (sorghum) crop of high quality. Prospects for the new season's crops are good.

The Agricultural Survey mentioned in last year's report has now been concluded and has provided much useful data on which agricultural policy can be based.

As a result of an additional free grant of £122,000 from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund, the existing soil conservation work has been speeded up and new works commenced. During the year 31,000 acres were protected by terraces in the lowlands and 71,000 acres protected by buffer strips in the mountains. Thirty nine major dams were constructed, with a total capacity of 241,000,000 gallons. In addition 2,000 miles of dongas were beazoned off to exclude cultivation within a distance on either side equivalent to their depth in order to prevent their enlargement.

The major exports of wool and mohair amounted to 8,847,666 lb. and 1,229,477 lb. respectively : this represents £1,606,894 of the national income — a decrease compared with last year, of nearly £800,000 for approximately the same weight exported.

In accordance with Mohair Improvement policy, 277 Angora goats of good quality were introduced from the Union and resold to goat farmers. Similarly 1,136 good Merino rams have been imported and resold to flock owners since the policy for improving the wool crop in the Territory was instituted.

Little progress has been made in the production of Maluti shade-dried hides and administrative action to discourage the production of inferior hides is contemplated.

The Veterinary Assistants Training Course was completed during the year. It is clear from initial reports that these Assistants are fulfilling

a long felt need for increased veterinary services in the Districts where they are now serving.

The tattooing and registration of all livestock was undertaken during the year primarily as a measure to combat stock theft. Over 800,000 large stock and $1\frac{1}{2}$ million small stock were involved.

Final approval for the Agricultural Pilot Project Scheme was granted by the Secretary of State in September. The scheme is devised to produce a large demonstration area for all aspects of betterment work and particularly in regard to mechanized cultivation on a co-operative group basis. In its larger aspect the project will be an experiment in community development aiming at progress through the stimulation of local initiative and self-help.

An area of 600 acres has been set aside on the Maseru Reserve for experimental work. Progress has been made with the fencing, building and the provision of water supplies. The capital cost of the station is being financed from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds.

As a result of the constant demand from the Basuto for mechanization, one mechanized unit for each of the nine districts will shortly be operating on a group farming basis. This has been made possible through a free grant from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds.

Rotational grazing is resulting in wide-spread improvement in the grass cover with consequent diminishing of erosion. Some areas which have been closed for a number of years will shortly be re-opened to grazing and arrangements are now in hand to ensure that these areas will only carry the numbers of livestock that they can rationally support and will not, as in the past, be open to all-comers.

The average rainfall for the year was 27.85 inches which is about one inch less than the average over the last 36 years.

5. CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

There are 29 co-operative societies of which 10 are wool and mohair marketing societies, 14 consumers' societies, and five agricultural societies. During the year three new societies were registered, and six wound up.

The marketing of wool and mohair continued to be the most significant co-operative activity. The policy of exporting only properly classed wool has now resulted in its being bought as Merino wool on its own merits instead of as "Native" wool. During 1952, societies began to export properly classed mohair and this policy has already paid dividends by commanding enhanced prices.

Consumer Societies are not doing well due to their problems which are more complex than those of other societies. For example they have difficulty in obtaining their supplies at true wholesale prices, due to their small turnover. During the year no new societies were registered, but five were liquidated.

One new Agricultural Society was registered in 1952 making a total of five. Produce marketing, which should be their primary function,

has hardly begun due to difficulties in the collection and disposal of produce.

In spite of all the difficulties that exist the Co-operative movement appears to have come to stay in Basutoland. The problem that must now be faced is to consolidate the position won by the wool and mohair marketing societies, and build up the other types of societies to ensure a balanced co-operative movement within the Territory. It is significant that the turnover of co-operative societies has increased from £57,721 in 1950 to £156,544 in 1951. From the 31st March, 1951, to 30th September, 1952, the turnover amounted to £102,330. It has been found necessary to synchronise the co-operative financial year with that of the wool season. The year will now run from 1st October to 30th September. The lesser figure for 1952, which is for a period of 18 months, is due to the landslide in wool prices. This 1952 figure is for one wool season only and is in respect of 562,000 lb. wool exported compared with 395,000 lb. wool exported in 1951. Thus the volume of turnover for 1952 has increased considerably although the value has decreased.

6. NATIVE ADMINISTRATION

(a) *Visit to East Africa*

A party of four Chiefs and two National Councillors, chosen by the Paramount Chief Regent, and accompanied by the Principal Agricultural Officer and a District Commissioner as conducting officers, visited East Africa during June and July.

The object of the visit was to study development in African Local Government and Agricultural Improvement Schemes. A strenuous but excellent tour was arranged during which the party visited Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika and Northern Rhodesia.

A report on the visit was laid before the Basutoland Council but discussion has been deferred temporarily.

(b) *Special Levy*

The special levy, which was proposed as a means of raising funds for higher education, has been approved by the Secretary of State. The aim is to raise £100,000 by a basic levy of 5s. on all adult males and a graded levy on various categories of Basuto based on wages earned, stock owned, etc.

Collection began in June and at the 31st December, 1952, more than £30,850 had been collected. Added to this there is a subvention of £20,000 from Government.

(c) *Native Courts*

The proposals of the Courts Reforms Committee have been approved. The Committee is to reassemble in 1953 to consider ways and means of implementing the proposals.

(d) *Basuto National Treasury*

The Basuto National Treasury has again had a most successful year. Revenue amounted to £167,473 and expenditure was £147,294. The accumulated surplus at 31st March, 1952 was £123,302 of which £60,000 has been appropriated to a Special Reserve Fund.

7. EDUCATION

The school enrolment reached the record figure of 94,704 pupils, which is an increase of over 5,000 compared with last year. This has, however, put considerable pressure on school accommodation and staff. Twenty teachers were added to the staffs of grant-aided schools, but 42 percent of the teachers in these schools have no academic teaching qualifications.

During the year a minimum age of entry to primary schools was established and promotion was made automatic in the first two years of the primary course: this should alleviate overcrowding and wastage at this stage. With the aid of a Colonial Development and Welfare grant, approval was given for the establishment of four new junior secondary schools. A British Colonial scholarship was awarded to a science graduate to enable him to study civil engineering at Edinburgh University.

A new hostel at the Lerotholi Technical School was opened with the result that the school can now take 140 students, double its former capacity. A tailoring course has been started at the School.

8. MEDICAL

The total accommodation in the nine Government Hospitals is 373 beds for Africans and 13 for Europeans. During the year 9,691 patients were admitted and 4,635 operations were performed — this is an increase of 313 and 544 respectively compared with the figures for 1951.

Five Africans have been trained as Medical Officers as a result of financial aid granted from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund and the Basutoland Government. Three accepted appointment as Government Medical Officers but one of these has since resigned.

The Phamong Health Centre is doing valuable work and a Mountain Dispensary has been opened at Nohana's in the Mohale's Hoek District.

Work on the new 250 bed Maseru Hospital was started in December. The construction is being undertaken by the Public Works Department with funds from a Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme.

Apart from sporadic outbreaks of diphtheria, resulting in 90 deaths, there have been no major epidemics in the Territory. Compared with 1951 the number of diphtheria cases showed a decrease of 32 but the number of deaths increased by 29.

9. P O L I C E

Seven Mountain Posts have been completed and the eighth, already operating with a skeleton staff, will be completed by March, 1953. These posts are not only most effective in the investigation of crime in the mountain area but also, by their very presence, in the prevention of crime.

The number of "medicine murders" reported during the year was 14.

Convictions for all crimes for 1952 total 3,628 an increase of 214 over the figures for the previous year.

A contingent of two officers and twenty-seven other ranks were seconded for special duty in the Bechuanaland Protectorate for eight months during the year. They were withdrawn on the arrival of twenty-five Basuto who had been attested on contract for special duty as constables in the Bechuanaland Protectorate Police. It is of great credit to the Police that with such a strain on their resources they managed to maintain the volume and efficiency of their work.

10. P R I S O N S

The second wing of the Central Prison, which is being constructed in Maseru by prison labour, has been completed and work has started on the third wing. The kitchen block has also been completed and the whole area fenced in. Prisoners are taught useful occupations such as tailoring, stone dressing, carpentry and boot repairs, so that on release they can practice such trades if they wish.

11. P O S T O F F I C E

The experimental employment of Basuto women as telephonists has proved most satisfactory and they are now offered permanent appointment.

12. M O U N T A I N M O T O R R O A D

Equipment has been slow in arriving but the final item was received in December. Construction has reached mile 28 and has been done through difficult country up to an altitude of 8,400 feet.

13. A P P O I N T M E N T O F N E W R E S I D E N T C O M M I S S I O N E R

Mr. E.P. Arrowsmith C.M.G., lately Administrator of Dominica, arrived in Basutoland on the 2nd May to assume duty as Resident Commissioner.

14. APPOINTMENT OF BASUTO TO SENIOR POSITIONS IN THE SERVICE

Dr. V.R. Ntsekhe was appointed Medical Officer and will assume duty in January, 1953. The posts of three Development Officers and the cashier at the Treasury in Maseru have been filled by Basuto.

15. HONOURS

During the year the following Honours were conferred on residents of Basutoland :

O.B.E. (Civil Division)

Dr. D.H.R. Vollet

M.B.E. (Civil Division)

Mr. G.E. Pott
Mr. C.H. Williams
Mr. A.J.A. Douglas
Mr. J.T. Mohapeloa
Mrs. K.M.K. Bigg

Colonial Police Medal for Gallantry

Sgt. Moeketsi (Posthumous award)
Cpl. Horoto (Posthumous award)

Colonial Police Medal

Capt. M.C. Manby

Queen's Medal for Chiefs (in silver)

Chief Matlere Lerotholi, M.B.E.

Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct

L/Cpl. Ncheke
Tpr. Ntsielo
Tpr. Pitso

Certificates of Honour and Badges

Mrs. V. Koloti
Mr. A. Notsi
Mr. A.J. Maema
Mr. M. Molapo

CHAPTER TWO

DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

Those schemes which are financed from the revenues of the Territory are described elsewhere in the Report.

The table below shows the schemes in operation which are financed from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund.

<i>No. of Schemes</i>	<i>Title of Scheme</i>	<i>Initiated during financial year</i>	<i>Total spent to 31.3.52. plus anticipated expenditure to 31.3.53</i>
D. 603	Soil Conservation Measures.	1946-47	£275,437
D. 684	Water Supplies, Maseru.	1946-47	68,000
D. 692	District Water Supplies	1946-47	11,353
D. 758	Education	1947-48	59,883
D. 842	Medical and Health	1948-49	58,556
D.1025	Improvements to Main Roads	1949-50	19,978
D.1025A	Orange River Bridge.	1950-51	6,346
D.1050	Mountain Motor Road	1949-50	137,999
D.1436	Mountain Dispensaries	1950-51	3,875
D.1479	Scholarships	1950-51	1,998
D.1488	Topographical Survey	1950-51	19,548
D.1504	Orange River Survey	1950-51	1,506
D.1765	Pilot Project Scheme.	1952-53	46,145
D.1845	Experiment Station	1952-53	18,620
R. 495	Soil Fertility Worker	1951-52	1,162
	Total		<u>£703,406</u>

An amount of £830,000 has been provided under the ten year Development Plan which has been allocated as follows :

Soil Conservation	£303,480
Roads and Bridges.	236,000
Water Supplies.	80,000
Medical and Health	108,825
Education	100,300
Unallocated balance	<u>1,395</u>
Total	<u>£830,000</u>

Progress made during the year may be summarised as follows :

AGRICULTURE

Soil Conservation

The progress made in the principal sections of this work is shown in the following table :

<i>Measure</i>	<i>Prior to December 1951</i>	<i>During 1952</i>	<i>Total to December 1952</i>
Area Terraced Lowlands (acres) .	306,580	31,629	338,209
Length of terrace banks (miles) .	17,891	1,785	19,676
Buffer Strips Mountain Areas (acres)	331,996	71,524	402,520
Diversion Furrows Mountain Areas (yards).	2,054,853	599,346	2,654,199
Diversion Furrows Mountain Areas (acres protected)	86,105	26,521	112,626
Dams constructed	340	39	379
Trees Planted	895,016	19,913	904,929
Dongas beaconed (miles) . . .	1,645	2,000	3,645

This is the fifth consecutive year that weather conditions have been most unfavourable for soil conservation work. Heavy rain during January and February followed by a drought until October put a heavy strain on plant and equipment. In addition most of the senior staff have been occupied in tattooing and registration of livestock. Nevertheless, the average volume of work has been maintained and in some cases exceeded.

The average cost per acre of land terraced was 16·2s. per acre, a decrease of ·3s. per acre compared with 1951.

The acreage of mountain areas protected by diversion furrows has cost 4·4s. per acre, a decrease of 1·2s. compared with 1951. This work has been mainly confined to the North of the Territory.

The construction of buffer strips has now been completed in the mountain areas of four districts and work has begun in the large foothill area along the Maluti Mountains.

New equipment has reduced the cost and increased the scope of dam construction. Thirty-nine major dams were completed during the year with a total capacity of 241,000,000 gallons of water. There are now 379 major dams in the Territory.

Where dams have been fenced, over 19,000 trees were planted. The Basuto Administration are responsible for the planting of trees for fuel supplies.

The beaconing of dongas is proceeding satisfactorily and land-owners are observing the beacons when ploughing.

Due to unfavourable weather conditions the planting of grass was for the most part not successful.

Topographical Survey

The ground control work of this survey has met with far more difficulties than were originally anticipated. However, work is progressing and preliminary maps are in the process of production.

Pilot Project Scheme and Experiment Station

An outline of these schemes is given in Chapter One, Section 4.

PUBLIC WORKS

Roads and Bridges

Scheme D.1025. Three bridges of 20, 40 and 60 feet span respectively and numerous pipe culverts were constructed during the year. Materials were purchased for the construction of additional bridges next year.

Mountain Road

Scheme D.1050. During the year work progressed satisfactorily although plant was slow in arriving. The final item, a D7 Bulldozer, was received in December. Revised estimates for the completion of the work were submitted and amounted to £219,370. By the end of the year construction reached mile 28, and has been done through very difficult country up to an altitude of 8,400 feet.

Maseru Hospital

Scheme D.842. During the latter half of the year plans for the new hospital were prepared and materials purchased in order that construction could start early in January, 1953.

MEDICAL AND HEALTH

Training of African Medical Officers

Scheme D.525. The funds from this scheme became exhausted during the 1949-50 financial year and thereafter provision for the completion of the courses of students under training was from Basutoland funds. Another Mosuto student is being given a medical training under Scheme D.1479 (see below).

There were five Basuto trained under this scheme.

Drs. A.E. Maema and Z. Tlale were unwilling to accept appointment to Government service and have established separate private practices in Basutoland. Dr. K.J.S. Nkuebe resigned from his appointment during the year and is in private practice in the Union of South Africa. Dr. S.T. Makenete is in charge of the Butha-Buthe hospital. Dr. V.R. Ntsekhe, who served his internship in the Union of South Africa, has been appointed Medical Officer and will assume duty in January, 1953.

Medical and Health

Scheme D.842. The Butha-Buthe Hospital was opened in December. Owing to various difficulties work did not start on the Health Centre at Semonkong. Work on a similar centre at Marakabei was due to be started this year but owing to the difficulty of transporting supplies it was decided to defer the erection until the mountain road, at present in the course of construction, reaches there.

Mountain Dispensaries

Scheme D.1436. Of the four mountain dispensaries to be built under this scheme, that at Nohana's, near Ketane, in the Mohale's Hoek District was opened in mid-December and is staffed by an African Nurse with general and midwifery qualifications.

The erection of a similar dispensary at Sekake's, in the Qacha's Nek District, has been temporarily discontinued owing to the difficulty with the contractor and the distance and inadequacy of the nearest available water supply.

E D U C A T I O N

Education

Scheme D.758. Under the scheme for the improvement of school buildings a total of £2,962 was paid to missions on a £ for £ basis in respect of improvements at 73 primary schools. The rebuilding programme at the Basutoland Training College was completed. The payment of small equipment grants to mission schools and of salary grants for Educational Secretaries continued.

Scholarships

Scheme D.1479. Two students studying at the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College, Edinburgh, and one taking a medical course at the University of the Witwatersrand continued to be financed under this scheme.

PART II

CHAPTER ONE

POPULATION

Population figures for Basutoland show a rapid increase during the early part of this century. In 1911, the total population was estimated at 401,000 and in 1936 at 559,000. This trend has been recently halted as shown in the figure of 561,000 given in the 1946 Census. These figures do not include absentees. The increase was partly due to immigration especially of Tembus from the nearby districts of the Cape Province. In addition, it was the feeling of some Basuto chiefs that their importance would be enhanced by increasing the number of their subjects.

In 1949-50 an agricultural survey was carried out, during the course of which the total population of Basutoland including absentees was estimated to be approximately 660,000. However different methods of calculation were used and it would not be correct to compare this figure with those of previous population censuses. The next population census is not expected to be carried out before 1956.

It is generally agreed that the small increase of population between 1936 and 1946 is not due to faulty enumeration but to certain economic factors and the lure of industry in the neighbouring territory of the Union. It appears that many Basuto are gradually discarding their feudal mode of life and that education, the attractions of urban amenities and the opportunity to earn, make it inevitable that they should be drawn to the Union.

The slight increase in the figures of the European population in 1946 (1,689) as compared with 1936 (1,434) (apart from natural increase) is due to three factors: the employment by Government of a larger European staff, an increase in trading activities, and the arrival of more missionaries in the Territory. Over the last 25 years there has been an increase of 86 Europeans.

The present distribution of the African population shows a distinct relationship to the physical structure of the country. The bulk of the population is still concentrated in the lowlands, and in these areas saturation point seems for the time being to have been reached. The mountains were until recently almost entirely reserved for grazing, and even the concentration of population which now exists in the rich valleys near the 'Maletsunyane Falls dates back only about 25 years.

With the increasing pressure on the land in the lowlands the people

extended their cultivation up the river valleys, and, as these were in turn found to be inadequate, up on to the mountain slopes.

The result is that to-day there are scattered settlements throughout the mountain area of Basutoland. Land has been ploughed which is unsuitable for cultivation and which will quickly become eroded. The Paramount Chief has, therefore, issued orders, firstly that these scattered settlements shall be grouped together to form villages, and secondly that no new land shall be ploughed without her permission. Permission to plough new lands is only given after consultation with the Agricultural Department.

No reliable estimate of the total population and its racial groups can be given for 1952, or the two years previous to that. The table below gives the figures from the 1946 Census.

A. AFRICANS IN THE TERRITORY

<i>District</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>1936</i>	<i>Difference</i>
Butha-Buthe. .	14,950	20,268	35,218	34,869	+ 349
Leribe . . .	42,519	56,136	98,655	98,376	+ 1,279
Teyateyaneng .	25,123	32,709	57,832	55,522	+ 2,310
Maseru . . .	46,605	59,115	105,720	108,237	— 2,517
Mafeteng. . .	30,989	38,312	69,301	70,864	— 1,563
Mohale's Hoek .	29,055	36,895	65,950	65,309	+ 641
Quthing . . .	19,888	25,784	45,672	44,552	+ 1,120
Qacha's Nek .	19,847	24,954	44,801	46,132	— 1,331
Mokhotlong . .	17,368	20,772	38,140	36,412	+ 1,728
Total	246,344	314,945	561,289	559,273	+ 2,016

B. EUROPEANS IN THE TERRITORY

<i>District</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>1936</i>	<i>Difference</i>
Butha-Buthe.	15	17	32	50	— 18
Leribe . . .	77	94	171	154	+ 17
Teyateyaneng .	59	49	108	94	+ 14
Maseru . . .	378	359	737	583	+ 154
Mafeteng. . .	108	110	218	189	+ 29
Mohale's Hoek .	87	99	186	150	+ 36
Quthing . . .	57	46	103	106	— 3
Qacha's Nek .	55	44	99	82	+ 17
Mokhotlong . .	21	14	35	26	+ 9
Total	857	832	1,689	1,434	+ 255

C. ASIATICS AND COLOURED S

<i>District</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>1936</i>	<i>Difference</i>
Butha-Buthe. .	108	86	194	185	+ 9
Leribe . . .	100	104	204	337	—133
Teyateyaneng .	55	31	86	199	— 33
Maseru . . .	82	75	157	331	—174
Mafeteng. . .	57	53	110	248	—138
Mohale's Hoek .	20	29	49	233	—184
Quthing . . .	16	18	34	70	— 36
Qacha's Nek .	21	20	41	65	— 24
Mokhotlong . .	1	—	1	16	— 15
Total . . .	460	416	876	1,604	—728

The African population is not required to register births and deaths and therefore no figures are available.

CHAPTER TWO

OCCUPATIONS, WAGES AND LABOUR
ORGANIZATION

OCCUPATIONS

The principal occupations of the Basuto are agriculture and stock farming, and for these pursuits the country provides all the essentials. Its climate favours the development of a healthy, hardy mountain people and it is free from the chief scourges of Africa: there are few mosquitoes and no malaria or tsetse fly. It is also free from many of the forms of cattle disease which plague countries nearer sea level.

However, primitive methods of farming have made the soil less productive and, through hastening erosion, have actually decreased the area of arable land. At the same time the population has increased under the "pax Britannica" so that there are more people to feed and yet less food is produced than before. The measures which are being taken to conserve the soil and to make it more productive are described in a later chapter.

As the average family has not enough land to support it, it is necessary for the men to leave home periodically to look for work. There are no industries in Basutoland besides the printing industries of the Paris Evangelical Missionary Society and the Roman Catholic Mission which employ about 80 and 40 Basuto respectively. An increasing number are,



Mountain Road (see p. 6)



Three types of Native Dwellings at Matsieng Village



Wash-Day

however, taking out licences for motor buses and taxis and some are interesting themselves in weaving. Apart from employment in the Government Service or at trading stores, there is little work to be found in the Territory. It is, therefore, necessary for Basuto to leave the Territory to work in the Union of South Africa.

Until recently most of the men went to the gold mines of the Witwatersrand, but more and more are now finding work in other industries and employment. During 1952 over 36,600 Basuto were employed on the gold mines. No accurate figures are available of those otherwise employed, but it is known that more than 10,000 were working on the coal and diamond mines and more than 27,000 were in other employment in certain areas of the Transvaal and Orange Free State alone.

The table below shows the number of passes issued in the last three years to Basuto leaving the Territory for employment in the Union of South Africa. The difference between the number of passes issued and the workers employed on the mines is largely accounted for by the numbers who remained at the mines from previous years.

<i>Mines</i>	<i>1950</i>	<i>1951</i>	<i>1952</i>
Gold	20,795	25,921	25,612
Coal	3,497	3,655	5,782
Diamond	1,012	304	1,329
Manganese	253	76	157
Other Mines	1,313	1,048	1,473
Total Mines	26,870	31,004	34,353
Agricultural	5,145	7,105	4,771
Miscellaneous	17,609	26,732	24,608
Total	49,624	64,841	63,732

The Chamber of Mines, Johannesburg, is represented by the Native Recruiting Corporation Ltd., with its local Superintendent and head office in Maseru, and branch offices in other district head-quarter stations. The corporation recruits either under contract or under the Assisted Voluntary System.

The contract, which is attested before a Government officer, binds the recruit to work in a certain mine for a certain number of shifts at given rates of wage, according to the class of work performed. Basuto, incidentally, are usually employed on the more difficult and better paid tasks, such as shaft sinking. The majority are employed underground.

Most recruits for the mines prefer to engage under the Assisted Voluntary System. By this system the recruit is not attested for work on any particular mine, but agrees to proceed to Johannesburg for work on any of the mines enumerated in a schedule. On arrival he is given three weeks in which to choose his mine.

A large percentage of the Basuto recruited for the mines defer a portion of their earnings for payment to them on their return to Basuto-

land. In 1952 £185,710 was paid out through the recruiting organizations as deferred wages. Many also remit money to their families through the organizations, and in the year under review this amounted to over £170,674. Although statistics are not available, it is estimated that an amount at least equal to this is remitted through the post. This is very satisfactory and is given every encouragement by Government.

Labour is also recruited by other approved Labour Agents for work on coal, diamond, and manganese mines, farms, and for other employment.

In 1932 an office was opened temporarily in Johannesburg for collecting tax from Basuto employed on the Witwatersrand. At the beginning of 1933 the Agency was permanently established and it has been maintained ever since. The Agency at first dealt only with the collection of revenue, but it soon began dealing with the domestic affairs of the Basuto on the Witwatersrand, encouraging them to save money, giving them home news, counteracting as far as possible the temptations of their environment, repatriating those who are indigent and, generally, giving advice and assistance to them whenever required.

Sub-agencies have since been opened at Springs and Randfontein, and in January, 1951 a sub-agency was opened at Welkom, the centre of the new goldfields of the Orange Free State.

The Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland now share in the Agency which thus deals with Africans from all three High Commission Territories, both in regard to the collection of taxes and in general welfare work.

Recruiting is only permitted for those concerns which provide good living and working conditions and the Agent for the High Commission Territories and his Officers spend much of their time in inspecting conditions on the mines and elsewhere. During the year the Agent visited many labour centres in the Union and made contact with many Basuto who were working far from their homes. Partly as a result of these visits the tax collections of the Agency for the financial year ended the 31st March, 1952 amounted to £116,349 as compared with £110,117 for the previous year.

WAGES AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

The few African wage earners who find employment in the Territory may be classified as follows :

- (a) Domestic servants, earning from £1. 10s. 0d. to £5 a month. Food and lodging are usually provided in addition.
- (b) Labourers, employed mainly on roads and other public works, soil conservation work, etc. at rates of from 1s. 9d. to 3s. a day. Public works labourers work a 54-hour week.
- (c) Foremen, earning from £5 to £8 a month.
- (d) Artisans, earning from £8 to £17 a month.
- (e) Trading store employees, earning £3 to £7 a month.

In considering these wages it should be remembered that every married man is entitled to lands on which to grow food, free occupation of a site for his house, and communal grazing rights for his cattle, and that the staple food of the average Mosuto of the labouring class is mealie porridge, samp and beans.

COST OF LIVING

The following table shews the fluctuations in prices of various commodities since 1950 and indicates the prewar price :

Commodity	1938		1950		1951		1952	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Mealie meal per lb.		1 $\frac{1}{4}$		2 $\frac{1}{2}$		3		3
Beans per lb.		3		4		5		8
Samp per lb.		1 $\frac{1}{2}$		2		3		3 $\frac{3}{4}$
Bread per 2lb. loaf		4		8 $\frac{1}{2}$		8		9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Flour per lb.		2		3 $\frac{1}{2}$		3 $\frac{1}{2}$		3 $\frac{3}{4}$
Rice per lb.		4	Unobtainable				1	5
Oatmeal per lb.		3		9	1	—	1	—
Tea per lb.	2	3	7	3	6	3	6	9
Coffee per lb.	1	9	4	11	5	4	5	4
Sugar per lb.		3		3 $\frac{1}{2}$		5		5
Jam per lb.		5	1	9	1	11	1	10
					to 3	6	to 3	6
Potatoes per lb.		1		3		3		3
Butter per lb.	1	2	2	9	2	9	3	2
Cheese per lb.	1	2	2	3	2	4	2	8
Eggs per doz.	1	6	1	6	1	9	2	6
			to 4	—	to 4	3	to 4	6
Milk per gall.	2	—	3	—	3	4	3	4
Bacon per lb.	1	5	2	8	3	—	3	6
Beef per lb.		6	1	5	2	—	2	2
Mutton per lb.		7	1	6	1	8	2	6

TRADE UNIONS

It was a necessary condition for obtaining assistance from the Colonial Development Fund that facilities should be provided for the establishment and activities of Trade Unions. There had previously been no need for such legislation in Basutoland owing to the total lack of industries.

Proclamation No. 17 of 1942, entitled the Basutoland Trade Unions and Trade Disputes Proclamation, has provided for the registration and regulation of Trade Unions in Basutoland and for the orderly settlement of trade disputes.

In 1952, the Basutoland Typographical Workers Union and the Basutoland Commercial Distributive Workers Union were registered. These are the first Trade Unions to have been registered in Basutoland.

LABOUR LEGISLATION

The following labour legislation is in force in the Territory :

Proclamation No. 37 of 1936 enables the High Commissioner to regulate the level of wages paid to natives in any occupation or in any area within the Territory. A minimum wage level may be prescribed by Notice in the Official Gazette.

Proclamation No. 71 of 1939 regulates the condition of employment of women, young persons and children in industrial undertakings, and prohibits the employment of any person under the age of 12 years in any such undertaking, whether public or private, unless it shall be owned by that child's parents.

Proclamations No. 5 of 1942, 40 of 1943, 4 of 1951 and 43 of 1951 amended and consolidated the law relating to the recruitment and contracts for the employment of Basuto for work in the Union of South Africa.

Proclamation No. 4 of 1948 makes provision for the payment of compensation to workmen employed in Basutoland who suffer injury or death or contract disease in the course of their employment.

CHAPTER THREE

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION

Including receipts and expenditure on account of Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes, the revenue for the financial year 1951-52 totalled £1,426,711 compared with expenditure amounting to £1,296,579. The gross surplus of £130,132 was reduced to £103,566 by deduction of £26,566 representing depreciation of the Territory's investments when revalued at the close of the financial year. The net surplus for the year raised the general revenue balance at 31st March, 1952 to £560,423.

Expenditure on Colonial Development and Welfare projects was £185,002 and funds totalling £190,009 were received from Her Majesty's Treasury in this respect. A further sum of £8,754 is due from the Treasury to meet expenditure incurred on these projects.

The Estimates as originally framed in 1950 provided for a deficit of £38,703 for the year. The remarkable surplus was due in the main to heavy increases in revenue, notably in Income Tax, Wool and Mohair

Export Duty, Native Tax and Customs and Excise duties. The high collections under the first three of these heads were due to the very favourable conditions arising from the world-wide demand for wool during the previous year and the early part of the year under review. The large profits accruing from the wool boom of 1950-51 were taxable during the current year and Income Tax collections exceeded £250,000 compared with the estimate of £150,000.

Wool and Mohair Duty amounted to more than double the £50,000 estimated as, under the Wool and Mohair Export Duty Proclamation of 1923, the rate of duty was changed as the selling price of wool fluctuated. During the year the rate varied between 1*d.* and 4*d.* a pound, one half-penny of which accrued to the Wool and Mohair Fund. Prices have now fallen to more normal levels.

The African wool producers derived considerable benefit from the unusual wool prices and the general prosperity of the country was reflected in a very high collection of Native Tax amounting to £291,643. This was £24,643 in excess of the estimate and was a record for the Territory.

The further relaxation of the import restriction imposed by the Government of the Union of South Africa resulted in a considerable increase in the Territory's share of Customs duties. (Under an agreement with that Government, the Territory received .88575 per centum of the total customs duties levied on goods entering the Union.) The effective operation of liquor control measures provided a substantial increase in the local collection of excise duty. Revenue from Customs and Excise duties exceeded the estimate, £322,000, by £69,145.

The revised position at 31st March, 1953, is anticipated to be as follows :

Accumulated Surplus Balance at 31.3.51.	£456,857
less Depreciation of Investments	26,567
	<u>£430,290</u>
add Surplus for year 1951-52	130,132
Accumulated Surplus Balance at 31.3.52.	<u>£560,422</u>
Estimated (revised) Expenditure 1952-53 .	£1,211,850
Estimated (revised) Revenue 1952-53 . .	<u>1,201,709</u>
Estimated Deficit for year 1952-53. . . .	10,141
less Amount due on account of C.D. & W.	
Schemes	8,754
	<u>1,387</u>
Estimated Surplus Balance at 31.3.53 . .	<u>£559,035</u>

It should be noted that the deficit anticipated for the year 1952-53 results from the payment in that year of cost of living allowances amounting to £26,000 awarded in respect of the previous year. The award of the allowance was made by the Secretary of State during May, 1952 with retroactive effect to 1st September, 1951.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

The following is a statement of Revenue and Expenditure for the last three years.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF REVENUE

<i>Head</i>	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52
	£	£	£
Native Tax	267,951	284,301	291,643
Customs and Excise	284,337	343,728	391,415
Posts and Telegraphs	36,181	30,291	32,591
Licences	16,111	16,638	19,465
Fees of Court or Office	4,764	4,013	12,795
Judicial Fines	2,827	5,812	8,737
Income Tax	159,347	158,629	250,596
Poll Tax	2,032	1,011	2,255
Fees for Services Rendered	14,154	24,644	18,616
Interest	9,296	11,897	12,036
Wool and Mohair Export Duty	40,692	47,298	107,268*
Miscellaneous	35,864	39,625	71,900
Rent from Government Property	19,596	20,716	17,386
	£893,152	£988,603	£1,236,703
Colonial Development and Welfare Grants	89,982	89,863	190,009
Total	£983,134	£1,078,466	£1,426,712

* Wool and Mohair Export Duty was increased from $\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $1d.$ a pound from 1st October 1949, and to sliding scale from $4d.$ to $1d.$ a pound according to average prices ruling, from September, 1951.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE

<i>Head</i>	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52
	£	£	£
Public Debt	—	728	1,637
Resident Commissioner	5,090	3,772	6,197
Agricultural and Veterinary Services	80,101	89,925	90,535
Audit	3,207	3,933	3,605*
Central Stores	4,097	23,539	12,734
Co-operative Societies	2,525	2,924	3,368**
District Administration	69,712	52,996	52,013
Education	155,711	156,267	156,680

High Commissioner's Office	8,827	28,459	30,271*
Legal	15,533	7,581	8,239
Leper Settlement	34,373	31,659	29,286
Medical	81,861	90,115	91,729
Miscellaneous	25,969	45,599	74,788
Native Administration.	95,922	101,182	111,293
Pensions and Gratuities	40,981	62,843	58,935
Police	99,654	102,976	97,733
Prisons	31,249	31,025	33,911
Posts and Telegraphs	40,800	34,117	36,672
Public Works Department	24,485	25,366	24,368
Public Works Recurrent	46,122	48,247	62,944
Public Works Extraordinary	36,081	19,306	78,762
Rand Agencies	—	18,954	23,835†
Secretariat	13,160	12,990	11,757*
Treasury	11,509	9,411	10,285*
Welfare	1,299	471	—
Anomalies Committee.	—	1,620	— ††
Colonial Development and Wel- fare Schemes	89,578	102,087	185,002
Total	<u>£1,017,846</u>	<u>£1,108,092</u>	<u>£1,296,579</u>

* Included under "Resident Commissioner" prior to 1949-50.

** New Department 1949-50.

† Included under "District Administration" prior to 1950-51.

†† Expenditure arising from adoption of Anomalies Committee Report on the Fitzgerald Report.

* Thus surplus is understated by £8,753. 11s. 2d. representing under-issued in respect of expenditure on C.D. and W. Account

MAIN HEADS OF TAXATION

Native Tax

Revenue from Native Tax for the year ending 31st March, 1953, is anticipated to be £285,000 exceeding the original estimate by £5,000. Tax is payable by each adult male domiciled in Basutoland, the normal rate being 34s. per annum. The wealthier persons are taxable at 40s. A further sum of 25s. is payable for each wife excluding the first, a maximum of two wives being taxable.

Customs and Excise

When the original estimates were officially revised, Customs and Excise duties were expected to produce £440,000 for the year, compared with the estimate of £384,000. Owing to the tightening of Import Control by the Government of the Union of South Africa during the year there is a possibility that the revised estimate may not be reached.

Income Tax

The original estimate for the year 1952-53 was £145,000. Actual collections are now expected to reach £185,000 of which approximately £45,000 represents arrears from the previous year. This figure represents a considerable reduction on the previous year's revenue which, as stated earlier in this Report, was inflated by profits arising from the abnormally high wool prices of 1950-51.

The rates fixed and rebates allowable in respect of the year ended 30th June, 1952 were :

(1) Normal Tax

	<i>Basic Rate per £ of taxable Income</i>	<i>Increase in Rate for each £ in excess of £1</i>	<i>Surcharge after deducting Rebates</i>
Married :	15d.	By 1/1000 of a penny	40%
Unmarried :	18d.	„ „ „ „	50%

(2) Super Tax

(On incomes in excess of £1,775)

Married	} 24d.	By 1/400th of a penny	45%
Unmarried			50%

N.B. For each pound in excess of a taxable income of £16,000 the rates are 4s. 2d. normal tax and 8s. 8d. super tax.

Rebates : From the tax calculated at the above rates, the following rebates are deducted :

(a) *Normal Tax*

Primary { Married £26
 { Unmarried £20
 Children £10 per child
 Dependants £2. 10s. per dependant
 Insurance Premiums, etc. 1s. 3d. per pound

(b) *Super Tax*

Primary £210

Example of the calculation of normal tax payable by a married man with income of £800; one child; one dependant; £40 insurance premiums.

Rate : 15.799d. per £1 (i.e. 15d. plus 799/1000 of a penny)

Tax payable = 800 x 15.799d. less rebates; plus surcharge

= £52. 13s. 3d. less £41 + 40%

= £16. 6s. 7d. less £3 Poll Tax if paid

Public Companies were taxed at the rate of 7s. 6d. for each pound of taxable income subject to a rebate of £45.

Income Tax is not payable by Africans.

Trading Licences

Details of the annual licence fees payable during the year 1952 are shewn in the Basutoland Trading Proclamation, 1951, the more important being :

General Trader	£25
Native Trader	£2. 10s. and £5
Agent of a Firm	£25
Other specified trades	£2 to £10

Stamp Duty

Stamp duties and fees are payable at the rates shewn in the Schedule to Chapter 70 of the Laws of Basutoland.

Death Duties

(a) *Succession Duty*. Subject to certain provisos and exemptions set out in Chapter 67 of the Laws, the rates of Succession Duty are as follows :

<i>Degree of Relationship of Successor to Predecessor</i>	<i>Rates of Duty upon dutiable amount of succession</i>
(i) Where the successor is the direct descendant or ascendant of the predecessor	3 per cent
(ii) Where the successor is the brother or sister of the predecessor	5 per cent
(iii) Where the successor is the descendant of the brother or sister of the predecessor	8 per cent

- (iv) Where the successor is otherwise related to the predecessor or is a stranger in blood or is an institution 12 per cent

(b) *Estate Duty*. This is payable by the estate in terms of Chapter 67 of the Laws, and is distinct from Succession Duty which is payable by successors. The rate of Estate Duty chargeable upon each pound of the dutiable amount is three-ten thousandths of a pound for every complete one hundred pounds or part thereof contained in the dutiable amount, subject to a maximum rate of 6s. 8d. upon each pound. A rebate of £300 is deducted from the amount of duty at the rate so calculated, with the result that it is only on estates where the dutiable amount exceeds £10,000 that Estate Duty is payable.

Wool and Mohair Export Duty

Up to 16th September, 1951, an export duty at the rate of 1d. per pound was levied on all wool and mohair exported from the Territory. With effect from 17th September the rate was increased to 4d., wool prices having been at an abnormally high level for some considerable time. The duty was reduced to 3d. a pound from 1st January, 1952, when prices had fallen to some extent. The sum of one half-penny from the duty collected on each pound of wool is credited to the Wool and Mohair Fund established for the betterment of the livestock industry of the Territory.

Gross revenue from this source is anticipated to amount to £125,000 during the year of which £25,000 will accrue to the Wool and Mohair Fund.

Poll Tax

Poll Tax of £3. per annum is payable by all adult male persons who do not pay Native Tax.

Posts and Telegraphs

Revenue from this source is expected slightly to exceed the estimate of £32,100. Expenditure amounting to £42,621 was provided for in the Estimates for the year. During the previous year, 1950-51, revenue and expenditure on this account were £30,291 and £34,117 respectively. The increase in expenditure for the current year arises mainly from provision for certain capital items.

CHAPTER FOUR

CURRENCY AND BANKING

There are no agricultural or co-operative banks within the Territory, but the Standard Bank of South Africa Ltd., has a branch office at Maseru. This is the only bank in the Territory.

The currency is provided for under Proclamation 2 of 1933 and is the same as in the Union of South Africa.

There are eleven head Post Offices at which is transacted business with the Union Post Office Savings Bank, whose headquarters is at Bloemfontein.

There have been no important developments under this head during the year under review.

CHAPTER FIVE

COMMERCE

With the exception of the years 1928 and 1950 the value of imports has exceeded that of exports, and in most years this adverse balance has been considerable. During the year under review it was due in the main to prices for wool being approximately half those paid in 1951, and the value of wool exports is still approximately three-quarters of the total. The adverse balance is offset by the export of labour to the mines, industries and farms in the Union, resulting in an influx of cash to Basutoland in the form of wages brought back, remittances and deferred pay. The large increase in the export of kaffir corn is due to the excellent crop produced and the high selling prices obtained.

Most of the retail trade of Basutoland is in the hands of Europeans and a few Indians in the North, though since the war many Basuto have applied for, and have been granted trading licences. In normal years the most important exports of the Territory are wool, mohair, wheat and cattle. The value in the last three years shows the following proportions to total exports :

	1950	1951	1952
	<i>per cent</i>	<i>per cent</i>	<i>per cent</i>
Wool	68·4	78·7	58·14
Mohair	12·72	8·7	16·4
Wheat	1·53	2·4	2·55
Cattle	2·23	2·3	1·41
Kaffir-Corn	1·77	1·55	11·47

TABLE I

Value of total imports and exports for the years 1950, 1951 and 1952

<i>Year</i>	<i>Imports £</i>	<i>Exports £</i>
1950	2,432,637	2,532,330
1951	2,836,059	2,800,573
1952	2,584,373	2,155,974

These figures do not include imports made by Government but include exports made by co-operative societies since their constitution in 1948.

TABLE II

Values and quantities of principal imports for the years 1950-1952

	<i>Quantity</i>			<i>Value in £</i>		
	<i>1950</i>	<i>1951</i>	<i>1952</i>	<i>1950</i>	<i>1951</i>	<i>1952</i>
<i>Livestock</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
Horses, Mules, etc.	2,122	756	452	16,887	5,790	4,311
Cattle	5,166	1,367	370	33,494	14,089	4,614
Sheep and Goats. . .	306	1,198	179	493	2,237	370
<i>Grain</i>	<i>Bags</i>	<i>Bags</i>	<i>Bags</i>			
Wheat and wheat-meal	3,317	40,350	49,541	61,393	76,957	110,802
Maize and Maize-meal	63,306	165,264	154,727	73,751	259,122	276,535
Kaffir-Corn	11,101	9,830	7,075	20,689	22,191	16,251
Other Produce	—	—	—	10,651	14,836	4,845
Merchandise	—	—	—	2,216,279	2,440,837	2,166,645
Total				<u>2,432,637</u>	<u>2,836,059</u>	<u>2,584,373</u>

TABLE III

Values for quantities of principal exports for the years 1950-1952

	<i>Quantity</i>			<i>Value in £</i>		
	<i>1950</i>	<i>1951</i>	<i>1952</i>	<i>1950</i>	<i>1951</i>	<i>1952</i>
<i>Livestock</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
Horses, Mules, etc.	82	191	68	910	2,163	1,212
Cattle	4,995	3,591	4,879	51,100	43,948	71,411
Sheep and Goats . . .	1,525	4,381	3,503	3,427	13,704	15,131

<i>Grain</i>	<i>Bags</i>	<i>Bags</i>	<i>Bags</i>			
Wheat & Wheatmeal.	23,592	41,178	27,342	34,967	68,119	54,889
Maize & Maizemeal	11,369	1,758	1,937	12,362	2,221	3,779
Kaffir-Corn	26,020	20,085	89,983	38,768	33,797	247,225
Barley . .	322	160	16	777	169	20
Beans and Peas . .	29,063	28,107	18,200	113,445	88,535	55,447
Oats . .	127	—	215	95	—	610
<i>Wool and Mohair</i>	<i>lb.</i>	<i>lb.</i>	<i>lb.</i>			
Wool. . .	8,537,631	6,818,020	7,170,137	1,563,914	1,652,630	1,015,430
Mohair	1,350,897	1,033,748	1,134,882	290,701	213,905	326,279
<i>Hides and Skins</i>						
Hides . .	465,317	294,382	347,869	45,948	24,686	24,175
Skins . .	322,558	358,871	485,499	25,481	37,429	38,407
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	—	—	—	4,360	4,728	1,984
Total . .				<u>2,186,255</u>	<u>2,186,034</u>	<u>1,855,999</u>

Note: The values and quantities of imports and exports given in Tables II and III relate only to imports and exports by traders, through whose hands most of the general trade of the country passes. Exports made by individual Basuto and Co-operative Societies, and cattle exported after being sold at Government auction-sales are given below.

TABLE IV

Livestock sold to buyers from the Union of South Africa at Government auction sales during 1952

	<i>Number</i>	<i>Value £</i>
Cattle.	2,034	30,360
Other animals	1,794	4,430

TABLE V

Exports of Wool and Mohair by Co-operative Societies, Hawkers and individual Basuto for the years 1950-1952

<i>Wool</i>	<i>Weight (lb.)</i>	<i>Value (£)</i>
1950.	1,455,729	—
1951.	1,996,004	550,876
1952.	1,677,529	237,989
<i>Mohair</i>		
1950.	112,547	—
1951.	208,628	30,794
1952.	94,595	27,196

TABLE VI

The following comparative table for 1950-1952 indicates the country of origin of motor vehicles registered in the Territory.

(a) <i>Private Motor Vehicles and Taxis</i>						
<i>Country of Origin</i>	<i>New Registrations</i>			<i>Total Registrations</i>		
	1950	1951	1952	1950	1951	1952
Great Britain	14	40	21	55	83	57
Canada & U.S.A.	84	81	123	533	484	398
Italy	—	1	1	1	2	3
France	2	6	3	8	13	6
Germany.	—	1	1	4	4	3
Total	<u>100</u>	<u>129</u>	<u>149</u>	<u>601</u>	<u>586</u>	<u>467</u>
(b) <i>Commercial Vehicles</i>						
Great Britain	7	15	16	14	29	30
Canada & U.S.A.	<u>44</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>335</u>	<u>297</u>	<u>258</u>
Total	<u>51</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>349</u>	<u>326</u>	<u>288</u>
(c) <i>Motor Cycles</i>						
Great Britain	3	2	2	10	8	5
Canada & U.S.A.	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1</u>
Total	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>

CHAPTER SIX

PRODUCTION

1. AGRICULTURAL AND LIVESTOCK SERVICES

Basutoland is a land of farmers. There is little prospect of industrial or mineral development. The economic future is therefore closely related to the development of agriculture, livestock and livestock products.

LAND UTILIZATION AND TENURE

(a) *Utilization of Agricultural Land*

The Agricultural Survey, which formed this Territory's contribution to the World Census of Agriculture, was published in 1952. Much new and useful information is now available.

The total arable land is estimated at 930,000 acres which is 12.4 per cent of the total land area. There should be added to this figure 3,000 acres representing non-tribal cultivation. The mean arable field acreage per household is 5.75 acres and the average size of a household throughout Basutoland is 4 persons, including absentees. However, it must be borne in mind that 11,700 households have no arable land at all. Of the total arable land 60 per cent is put down to maize, 19 per cent to sorghum, 16 per cent to wheat and the remainder to peas, barley, beans and oats.

(b) *Soil Conservation*

It is the aim of Government to improve the agriculture of the Territory so that more food and cash crops of better quality can be produced. It is, therefore, vitally important that the soil, which has already been seriously eroded, should be conserved. Funds from the Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme have been made available for this most important work. The appointment of Development Officers has been of great assistance. One of these officers has been specifically assigned for duty as Assistant Soil Conservation Officer.

The following work has been completed :

- (a) Approximately three-quarters of the arable land in the lowland areas has been protected by terracing or a combination of terraces and grass strips.
- (b) About three-quarters of the foothill areas have been protected by grass strips or buffer strips.
- (c) In the mountain area, the construction of grass strips in arable land should be completed in 1953. Adequate diversion furrows or storm drains are expected to be completed by 1955-56.

During 1952 the following work was done :

		<i>Cost (£)</i>
Lowland Terraces . . .	31,629 acres	25,656
Diversion Furrows . . .	26,521 "	5,830
Buffer Strips.	71,524 "	5,188
Dams.	39	2,711
Trees planted	19,913	263
Dongas demarcated . . .	2,000 miles	1,612

One Caterpillar tractor, complete with scraper and bulldozer, two graders, one rock drill and one Ferguson tractor were put into service during the year. The total cost of this machinery was £11,291.

The Basuto Administration have been most co-operative in dealing with cultivators who failed to maintain soil conservation works. The unlawful opening up of virgin land is being dealt with by legislation. The ploughing of land between the terrace banks in the lowland areas is now almost one hundred per cent correct.

Grazing control in the mountain grassland areas has resulted in widespread improvement in the grass cover with consequent slowing down of erosion. Areas which have been closed for some years are to be opened up. Arrangements are being made whereby the old custom of grazing areas being available for all comers, will be abolished and the areas will only take stock up to their carrying capacity. Until this is established, closed areas are remaining closed.

(c) *Land Ownership*

Proclamation No. 14 of the 12th March, 1868 declared *inter alia* that "the Territory of the said Tribe (i.e. the Basuto) shall be, and shall be taken to be British Territory".

In practice the land of Basutoland is held in trust for the Nation by the Chieftainship. There is no freehold tenure. Basuto are allotted lands by their Chiefs. Similarly Mission and Trading stations are allotted areas by the Paramount Chief in consultation with the Resident Commissioner. The Government Reserves situated in each district are areas set apart for the use of Government.

C R O P P R O D U C T I O N

The principal crops are maize, sorghum and wheat followed by peas, barley, beans and oats.

Drought conditions continued well into January 1952 and thereafter rainfall consisted largely of sharp localized storms. In the north the rainfall was more even and fair yields of maize and sorghums were harvested: the quality of sorghums was excellent. In the south crops were replanted late but were caught by frost before maturity. The mountain wheat crop was virtually a failure and the mountain peas were poor. However, the prospects for all these crops in 1953 are good.

Total production figures for 1952 are not available. The following export figures for 1951 and 1952 are however a reliable indication of the production for the year.

<i>Produce Exported</i>	<i>1951</i>	<i>1952</i>
	<i>200 lb. bags</i>	
Wheat and Wheatmeal . . .	53,977	36,589
Peas and Beans	32,511	18,200
Sorghums and Malt.	21,769	89,983

The export of maize is prohibited and to obtain some indication of production, it is as well to compare the imports for 1951 and 1952.

<i>Produce Imported</i>	<i>1951</i>	<i>1952</i>
	<i>200 lb. bags</i>	
Maize and Maize products. .	172,190	152,790

On the 1952 importation figure £43,744 was refunded to the Union Government, being the amount by which the consumers would be

subsidized by Union tax-payers on that quantity. The subsidy was increased from 4s. 8d. to 7s. 4d. per bag after the 30th April.

The most reliable figures for the yield per acre are contained in the Agricultural Survey in respect of the 1949-50 crops. These figures are :

Maize	10-11,000 lbs. per acre
Sorghum	800 " " "
Wheat	900 " " "
Peas	900 " " "
Barley	11,000 " " "
Beans	300 " " "
Oats (forage) . .	800 " " "

Maize is grown throughout the Territory, sorghums, beans and oats are grown principally in the lowlands while wheat and peas are in the main confined to the mountain area.

Three tree nurseries are maintained for use in the districts. The main interest of farmers was in seedling peach trees of which 17,000 were issued at a nominal charge.

An allocation of 192½ tons of super-phosphates was made available to Basutoland by the Union Controller of Fertilizers. In the north, kraal manure and village ash is still applied to fields but elsewhere its application is dwindling.

The usual free issue of vegetable seed was made and in all districts the number of vegetable gardens are increasing.

The Agricultural Advisory Board has continued to be most helpful.

The Pilot Project Scheme, mentioned in last year's report, has been approved and the scheme is now being put into operation. At the outset there is to be a clear distinction between the reclamation and demonstration aspect and the more advanced investigational aspect. The former embraces practices already known to the Basuto, e.g. soil conservation, grazing control; the latter aspect will include systems not yet tried in Basutoland, e.g. mechanized cultivation and mixed farming; it is expected that these will be of great benefit but at present little is known of their cost and technique under local conditions.

One mechanized unit for each of the nine districts in Basutoland will shortly be acquired as the result of a free grant from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund. There is a constant demand from the Basuto for mechanization, and it is intended that these units shall work on a group farming basis with correct farming methods.

A further grant from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds has enabled a Central Experiment Station to be established. Twelve district sub-stations are also being established on different soils and at different elevations throughout the Territory. These stations will be used for increased investigational facilities. This work is being planned in consultation with the Soil Fertility Worker.

The policy of the Agricultural Department continues to be directed towards the improvement of soil productivity and food crop production,

the maintenance of livestock of improved productive capacity and the stimulation of co-operation among agriculturalists.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

There is a biennial census of livestock taken. The census for 1951 showed :

Cattle	401,221
Horses	102,903
Donkeys	59,188
Mules	3,089
Sheep	1,564,001
Goats	637,065
Pigs	35,876

For the first time for many years, the number of livestock exported during 1952 exceeded the number imported.

The most important export product is wool. During the year 8,847,666 lbs. of wool to the value of £1,253,419, were exported. The classing of wool under the supervision of qualified wool classers has continued. At the same time the type of sheep has been improved by the castration of locally bred rams of undesirable type and the introduction of pure bred Merino rams which are sold to flock owners below cost price. 11,649 Merino rams have so far been imported. As a result of these measures the comparative value of Basutoland wool is rising steadily.

A total of 1,229,477 lbs. of mohair to the value of £353,475 was exported in 1952. The standards laid down for grading mohair have met with the general approval of the trade. In February, 277 Angora Goats were introduced from the Union and resold to goat farmers.

A wool and Mohair Officer was appointed during the year. Legislation to ensure the further improvement of wool and mohair will shortly be enacted. However, this legislation which is mainly concerned with improved classing and grading, requires a better trained senior field staff. This and the examination of wool classing premises has been the main work of the Wool and Mohair Officer during the year. The financing of the wool and mohair improvement schemes comes from a fund into which £25,000 is paid each year. This money is part of the export tax paid on wool and mohair.

Little progress has been made in the improvement of hides and skins and the production of the "Maluti" hide. A more simplified method of preparing hides is being tried and if this proves successful a great improvement is expected. Action is also being considered to discourage the production of inferior hides.

The Veterinary Assistants Training Course was completed in September, 1952. Of the 12 students, one was boarded as medically unfit and the remainder finished the course successfully. The results achieved particularly in practical work, were most encouraging. Initial reports on the work of the assistants are most gratifying.

The Veterinary Clinic dealt with 2,400 cases which included colic, wounds, biliary, minor operations, etc. No major outbreaks of disease occurred during the year, though there were the usual sporadic outbreaks of Anthrax and Quarter Evil, which were speedily dealt with. The losses in horses from Senecio poisoning continued. It has however been noted that the density of this plant is considerably reduced in rested areas where the original grasses are coming back.

In order to combat stock theft and at the request of the Paramount Chief, the Agricultural Department undertook the task of tattooing and registering all livestock in the Territory. This work was started in June and will be completed in all areas by 1953. Thereafter there will be a check round made during which imported stock, missed stock, etc. will be tattooed and registered. Stock registers based on Dip Tank areas will then be handed to Dip Tank Supervisors who will be responsible, under the supervision of the District Veterinary Assistant for the maintenance of the scheme. The co-operation of the Basuto Administration and the Basuto themselves is largely responsible for the success of this difficult operation.

2. CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

The number of registered societies was reduced from 32 at the end of 1951 to 29 at the end of 1952. Again consolidation has been the key note of policy. Six societies were wound up and three new ones registered. The demand for new registrations remained but the temptation to yield was resisted. Transport difficulties which hampered supervision in the past have been partly overcome by the stationing of African Inspectors at Mafeteng and Qacha's Nek. An African Clerk has been appointed to the Headquarters Office. The post of Assistant Registrar changed hands and the present holder has been appointed on a permanent basis. The appointment of an Accounting Clerk in 1953 should free the Registrar and the Assistant Registrar to develop Co-operation on a wider basis.

The marketing of wool and mohair continues to be the most significant co-operative activity. Consumer and Agricultural Societies are more difficult to organize and require more idealism on the part of their members for the benefits attached to these societies are not immediately and obviously forthcoming. It is, nevertheless, important to develop these societies lest the movement become a monopoly of the flock owner and thus lose much of its social value.

The following table gives a comparison of each type of society for 1950, 1951 and 1952 :

Type of Society	Number of Registered Societies			Total Number of Members			Total Share Capital			Total Turnover		
Year	50	51	52	50	51	52	50	51	52	50	51	52
Wool and Mohair Marketing.	8	9	10	1000	1568	2289	£ 850	£ 1192	£ 1915	£ 54812	£ 149925	£ 94,731
Consumer Agricultural (consumer and produce marketing).	17	19	14	1130	1510	1137	580	830	627	1850	3198	3750
Totals	29	32	29	2409	3447	3894	1646	2328	2914	57721	156544	102330

* N. B. Turnover figures are for the societies' financial year which ended on 31st March in 1950 and 1951 but on the 30th September in 1952. The 1952 figures are thus for an 18 month period. It was found necessary to synchronize the co-operative financial year with that of the wool season.

Wool and Mohair Marketing

During the 1950-51 wool season, world prices soared to unprecedented levels. The 1951-52 season saw the inevitable reaction. Prices received for Basutoland wool were not much more than one third of those received during the boom. The present season 1952-53 shows a considerable recovery although the levels of prices are nowhere near those of two years ago. A comparison of average prices for the different classes of Basutoland Wool (after deducting the societies' commission) for 1950-51, 1951-52 and the present season is shown in the following table :

	CL. d.	C2 d.	SS. d.	S. d.	CBP d.	BP. d.	BKS. d.	XM. d.	LOX d.
1950-51 Averages	93	85	80	77	68	64	61	67	45
1951-52 Averages (Approximate)	33	31	29	25	23	20	17	20	13
Typical December 1952	40	37	36	36	25	34	27	38	18

It was said in last year's report that paradoxically, the extremely high prices of the 1950-51 season did not encourage the co-operative marketing of wool. Similarly the great decline in prices in the 1951-52 season does not appear to have discouraged co-operative marketing, but at the same time cannot be said to have encouraged it. Co-operation is best served by a stable market, giving time for objective comparisons between co-operative and trader prices to be made. Violent fluctuations assist speculators and obscure the benefits to be obtained from co-operation. Anti-co-operative propaganda will compare trader prices when the market is at its highest with co-operative prices when it is at its lowest. The benefits obtained by co-operation are considerable. Most traders use the device of paying high prices for the best classes of wool and very low prices for the humbler classes in the hope that the flock-owner will compare only the best classes. These are often very much the same, but, for the lower classes, the co-operative member often receives more than double the ruling trader prices.

A serious handicap to co-operative wool marketing has been the great delay in making final payments. In former seasons the wool was brought to the society by its members, classed and then packed into bales for shipping to the coast. Since many members own only a few sheep, each member's wool might be scattered over several bales. It was consequently impossible to keep track of his wool and pay him the price actually obtained for it. The only possible method was to pay the member, on the society's weights and the society's classing, the average prices obtained for the whole of the society's consignment. This process caused long delays and in turn much dissatisfaction. In the new season (1952-53) a new system has been adopted. The wool is despatched to the coast in bags which carry numbers to identify their owners. It is thus possible to keep track of each member's wool until it is sold, and he can be paid the prices which his own wool in fact obtains, as soon as the society receives the remittance from the brokers. The delay in final payment is greatly reduced. This new system, formerly thought impracticable on the score of the extra accounting at the selling end, has been made possible by the co-operation of the societies' brokers, the Farmers Co-operative Union Limited. Even now some delay is unavoidable, and much education is still needed to persuade flockowners to forego the specious attraction of spot payments, in favour of richer rewards a month or so later.

The societies have adhered strictly to the policy of exporting only properly classed wool. Reports from the brokers and wool-buyers confirm that this policy has won for Basutoland co-operative wool a new reputation. The prejudice which existed against "Native" wool has largely disappeared and it is being bought as Merino wool on its own merits.

During the winter, the wool co-operatives market mohair on behalf of their members. 1951 mohair prices were lower than those prevailing during the boom of 1950, but in 1952 there was a remarkable recovery. Societies began to export properly classed mohair and the prices received for it suggest that this policy has already paid dividends. Co-operative members have received large payments for their mohair and as in the case of wool are much better paid than goat owners who sell their mohair to the traders.

The export of hides and skins continued during 1952 and satisfactory prices were obtained.

In addition to their main business of marketing their members' produce, the Wool and Mohair Co-operatives have undertaken the bulk purchase of fertilizer, stock salt and agricultural implements on behalf of their members. One or two ventured into the collective purchase and even the stocking of consumer goods ; these experiments were not always felicitous.

Towards the end of the year two new societies for wool and mohair marketing were registered. They appear to be promising infants and have already despatched their first consignments of wool to the coast. Another society finally expired after the annual audit in September, 1952.

Consumer Societies

These societies have been much less successful. During 1952, no new ones were registered, but five were liquidated. At the end of the year, there were fourteen societies, but one of these was scheduled for liquidation in 1953. There are problems in consumer co-operation which are more complex than those found in produce marketing and so far these have not all been overcome.

Agricultural Societies

A new agricultural society was registered in 1952, bringing the total to five. Two are more or less moribund, though there is still hope that they may be revived. Another is, in practice, a consumer society and has established a successful store. Its agricultural activities are, however, nebulous in the extreme. The remaining two, including the newly established one, have acted as small wool marketing societies. All carry on to a greater or lesser extent the collective purchase of both agricultural and consumer goods on behalf of their members. Produce marketing, which should be a primary function of agricultural societies, has hardly begun. The obstacles in the way of collecting and disposing of the produce have so far proved insuperable. Perhaps the most likely possibility is for these societies to sell their produce to wool and consumers' societies.

General

The Co-operative Movement has obviously taken root in Basutoland. Its development has so far been too one-sided. Nevertheless the success of the wool marketing co-operatives has quickly won respect for co-operation's potentialities and has set an example for other types of society to follow. The task for the future is to consolidate the position won by co-operative wool marketing, and to investigate the weaknesses and possibilities of other types of co-operatives in order to build up a balanced co-operative movement in the Territory.

CHAPTER SEVEN

SOCIAL SERVICES

1. EDUCATION

Education is largely in the hands of the three main missions under the direction of the Education Department. Large grants-in-aid for teachers' salaries in aided schools are made to the missions by Government. Small equipment grants are also paid and a limited amount of money is available to missions annually on a £ for £ basis for the improvement of their

school buildings under Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme No. D.758. Of the 921 schools in the Territory 9 are Government controlled and the remainder mission controlled; of the mission schools 709 are fully and 96 partially aided.

The administrative staff of the Department consists of a Director, a Senior Education Officer and a Woman Education Officer, and there is an Education Officer in charge of each of the three circuits into which the Territory is divided for purposes of administration and inspection. An African Assistant Education Officer and eight Supervisors assist the Education Officers in their work and spend most of their time on trek visiting primary schools and discussing education problems with teachers, chiefs, school managers and school committees. Education Officers spend as much time as possible in similar work and in conducting in-service courses for teachers; they have also a considerable volume of administrative work including acting as secretaries of District Advisory Committees which advise the Director on the local application of the educational policy of the Territory. There is also a Central Advisory Board to advise the Resident Commissioner on all matters relating to African education. The Director is chairman of this Board which includes representatives of the missions, the Paramount Chief, the District Advisory Committees and the teachers.

Each of the three missions has an Educational Secretary who deals directly with the Department and whose salary is paid by Government. The Educational Secretaries deal with their schools through managers, each of whom is in charge of from one to twenty schools.

With 921 schools and institutions spread throughout the Territory it is the policy of the Education Department to concentrate on improving existing buildings and staffing of schools. Much has yet to be done before the pupil/teacher ratio can be regarded as satisfactory, whilst the proportion of qualified to unqualified teachers in schools still leaves much to be desired. An increasing number of teachers is being trained each year and regular refresher courses for teachers, both trained and untrained are aimed at improving the general standard of efficiency of in-service teachers.

	<i>Average age of Entry</i>	<i>Average age of completion</i>
Primary Schools	8 years	16 years
Secondary Schools.	16 years	21 years

FINANCE

(Calendar year 1952)

	<i>Recurrent</i>	<i>Capital</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>From Colonial Revenue</i>	£	£	£
Grants-in-aid	141,144	—	141,144
Educational Administration	15,205	—	15,205
Other Education Charges.	4,391	300	4,691
Educational expenses by other Departments	12	9,237	9,249
Total from Colonial Revenue	160,752	9,537	170,289
<i>From Imperial Funds</i>	3,451	2,962	6,413
From Voluntary Agencies (estimates)	21,790	4,024	25,814
Total	£185,993	£16,523	£202,516

The school enrolment showed an increase of 5,000 over 1951, which in view of the relatively small amount of money available for improving buildings and equipment and the fact that it was possible to add only 20 teachers to the staffs of grant-aided schools meant a serious increase in the pressure on school accommodation and staff. Out of a total enrolment of 94,685 in the Territory 88,905 were in maintained or aided schools. Of these 87,632 (29,749 boys and 57,883 girls) were in 803 primary schools staffed by 1,756 teachers—an average of nearly 50 pupils to one teacher—while 1,273 (791 boys, 482 girls) were in 10 secondary institutions with 58 teachers. Of the secondary pupils 907 were taking general and 106 technical courses while 260 were training as teachers. There were 106 unaided primary schools with 5,745 pupils (1,701 boys 4044 girls) and 133 teachers.

Post-secondary education is provided in the Territory by Pius XII Catholic College which is unaided ; it had an enrolment of 28 men and 7 women, of whom 9 were Basuto. Basutoland also makes an annual grant to the University College of Fort Hare where 15 Basuto students were in residence in 1952.

The number of children in aided elementary vernacular schools (up to Standard III) was 78,856, of whom 33,424 or 42 per cent were in Grade A, the first year of the five-year course. In order to remedy this position and regulate the flow into and from the lower elementary classes it was ruled during the year that no child was to be accepted into school before the beginning of the year in which he would attain his sixth birthday, that new entries could be accepted only during the first three weeks of the school year and that promotions from Grade A and B should be automatic for children who had attended school for 150 days (approximately 75 per cent of the school year).

A new intermediate school syllabus (covering Standards IV to VI) was introduced at the beginning of the year with the intention of giving

a wider outlook and more practical basis to the work of the schools at this stage. It was decided to establish four junior secondary schools (teaching up to Form C) at suitably distributed intermediate schools which at present have Form A classes. Money for the necessary buildings is to be provided under Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme D.758. Improvements in the staffing of several secondary and teacher training institutions were authorized.

All the main developments during the year were introduced after full discussion in the Central Advisory Board on African Education and its Standing Committee, while District Advisory Committees continued to play their part in making recommendations on allocation of building grants, registration of new schools, authorization of additional classes and other matters. The term of office of members of the Central Advisory Board and District Advisory Committees was extended during the year from one to three years, thus becoming concurrent with that of members of the National and District Councils.

From the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund £2,962 was spent on buildings, £1,004 on equipment and £1,500 on salary grants for Mission Educational Secretaries. Scholarship assistance was granted to two students taking a veterinary course in Edinburgh and one taking a medical course in Johannesburg. A British Council scholarship was awarded to a science graduate on the staff of the Basutoland High School to enable him to study civil engineering at Edinburgh University. 96 students taking courses in Basutoland and 11 taking post-secondary courses in the Union of South Africa were assisted with bursaries paid from Government funds.

Officers of the Department, working in close co-operation with mission authorities, carried out their usual duties of school inspection, examination work, conducting refresher courses for teachers, holding meetings with parents and acting as secretaries and advisers to District Advisory and Controlled-School Committees. Particular attention was paid to the development of practical work, especially in agriculture for boys, domestic science for girls and craft work in the teacher training institutions.

The new hostel at the Lerotholi Technical School was completed and opened early in the year and is expected to fill up gradually during the next three or four years to a maximum of 140 students, or double the former capacity. A tailoring course was added to those already offered by the school. Good work was done by the three craft schools established to continue the work of the former Home Industries Organization though the number of students attending them was small.

More use was made of the mobile cinema van, shows including both entertainment and educational films being given at all district headquarters in the lowlands and at several schools. Schools with their own projectors continued to make good use of the departmental film library.

2. PUBLIC HEALTH

In Basutoland, the Government Medical Staff consists of a Director of Medical Services, 12 European Medical Officers, one of whom is relieving Medical Officer, two African Medical Officers, an African Houseman (Intern), and a Medical Superintendent of the Leper Settlement. A Medical Officer is stationed at each of the District Headquarters. Public Health and Sanitation are in the charge of a European Health Inspector and an African Assistant Health Inspector. There are two European Hospital Matrons, one of whom is at the Leper Settlement and 11 European Nursing Sisters, one of whom is at the Leper Settlement. There are 22 Trained African Nurses and 67 unqualified nurses and ward attendants. There is also one trained African Nurse in charge of a Mountain Dispensary.

There is one locally trained African Health Assistant in charge of a Health Centre and six Pupil Health Assistants at present in the course of training by the Medical Department.

There are 27 African Dispenser-Anaesthetists and four pupil Dispenser-Anaesthetists.

There are eight African Leprosy and Welfare Inspectors.

Of the nine Government Hospitals, four are staffed by European Nursing Sisters with a subordinate African staff, while five are staffed by Trained African Nurses and African staff.

The total accommodation in Government Hospitals is 373 beds for Africans and 13 for Europeans, but further numbers of urgent cases are frequently admitted with extempore accommodation.

The policy of the Medical Department is to provide medical attention to as large a percentage of the population as possible. To this end efforts are now being extended to the mountain areas. The accent is on preventive rather than curative medicine, for example numerous prophylactic inoculations in respect of communicable diseases are administered.

For the financial year ending 31st March, 1952, actual revenue to the Medical Department amounted to £11,330. During the same period expenditure amounted to £121,015.

The Hospital and staff quarters at Butha-Buthe erected under the Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme were opened early in December: the Dispensary attached to this hospital was opened on the 1st November. This unit has an all African staff including the Medical Officer.

A Mountain Dispensary erected under the Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme was completed and opened in mid-December and is in charge of a dual certificated African nurse.

Although five Africans were trained as medical practitioners under

a Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme only three accepted Government appointments, one of whom resigned during the year in order to establish private practice. One who completed his internship in Maseru Hospital during the year was unwilling to accept appointment in the Service, but one other completes his internship in the Union at the end of the year and will be appointed as Government Medical Officer in 1953. The African Assistant Health Inspector appointed in 1950 assists the European Health Inspector in matters concerning Health, Sanitation and preventive measures against epidemics. An African Health Assistant who qualified in 1950 was appointed to take charge of the Health Centre at Phamong, where he is doing good work and serving a useful purpose. The six pupil Health Assistants who began their training at Maseru Hospital during 1951 are progressing satisfactorily and all were successful in the nursing and first aid examinations set them during the year. When trained they will replace the present Leprosy Inspectors in order that their work may include general preventive medical work in addition to the inspection of lepers and leper contacts and permit greater stress to be placed on preventive medicine in the future. Fifteen Probationer Nurses underwent training at Maseru Hospital during the year, nine under the High Commission Territories Nursing Council and six under the Basutoland Executive Nursing Committee.

There is no mental asylum in Basutoland. In the past, Basuto lunatics were treated in asylums in the Union and 36 cases are still being hospitalized there. At present however accommodation can only rarely be obtained. As a matter of urgency a temporary Mental Detention Centre was established at Mohale's Hoek for dangerous lunatics. This arrangement leaves much to be desired, but supplies an urgent need until a mental hospital in charge of a Medical Officer trained in modern psychiatric treatment can be provided. The Detention Centre at Mohale's Hoek presents two advantages as compared with the admission of lunatics to Union asylums in that it permits lunatics to be visited by relatives and facilitates the discharge to their homes of patients whose condition is restored to health, or much improved. The Medical Officer at Mohale's Hoek is using convulsive therapy in a few selected cases. 129 patients were accommodated in the Detention Centre, 40 new cases were admitted, 25 were discharged and 20 died.

During the year 9,691 patients were admitted to Government Hospitals, compared with 9,378 during 1951, an increase of 313. There were 4,635 operations performed of which 863 were major operations, an increase of 544 as compared with the operations in 1951. 517 women of whom 489 were delivered were admitted to the maternity ward, Maseru Hospital. Owing to the lack of accommodation admission was limited to first confinements and cases in which complicated labour was expected. Ante-natal and Infant Clinics are held twice a week at the Maseru Hospital and 3,167 attendances were recorded.

The Phamong Health Centre, opened in August, 1951, with an African Health Assistant in charge, is functioning well. The Medical

Officer, Quthing, pays a weekly visit to the Centre and reports that the standard of diagnosis and treatment by the Health Assistant is sufficiently high for him to do a considerable amount of good.

Of the four Mountain Dispensaries to be built under another Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme, one at Nohana's, near Ketane, in the Mohale's Hoek District was completed during the year and opened in mid-December. A dual certificated African Nurse has been placed in charge and the dispensary is expected to serve a very useful function. The Dispensary is six hours' ride from the nearest motor road and is to be visited monthly by the Medical Officer, Quthing. Work which was started in 1951 on the construction of another Mountain Dispensary at Sekake's, in the Qacha's Nek District, has been temporarily discontinued owing to difficulty with the contractor and the distance and inadequacy of the nearest available water supply.

Approval was given for the building of Health Centres at Semongkong, Marakabei and Mashai, as well as a part of the new 250 bed hospital at Maseru, under a Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme. It was hoped to commence the erection of the Health Centre at Marakabei during the year, but this has been deferred until the Mountain Road at present in the course of construction reaches that far. Work on the new Maseru Hospital will be undertaken by the Public Works Department. The establishment of an adequate central hospital is desirable in that it will supply better facilities for the training of African staff and will concentrate on curative medical work at the main centre in Maseru.

Two Rural Dispensaries are being built, one at Linakeng, in the Qacha's Nek District, and the other at Tumane's, in the Butha-Buthe District, under the Deferred Pay Interest Fund. When completed a dual certificated African Nurse will be stationed at each of these dispensaries.

There are four Mission Hospitals in the Territory : at Roma, Morija, Paray (Ntaotes), and the Maluti Hospital at Mapoteng. The latter is only partly completed. All four hospitals are subsidized by Government and have 40, 32, 31 and 43 beds respectively. There is an out-patient department at each of these hospitals. Morija Hospital is recognized by the Basutoland Executive Nursing Committee as a training centre for Africans in general medical and surgical nursing, and has seven student nurses in training.

Epidemics and General Diseases

Apart from diphtheria, no major epidemics were reported during the year under review.

Plague

Three cases of bubonic plague, all of which proved fatal, of a mother and her two children, were reported at Liqoabing, Ha Mokhalinyane, near Don-Don in the Maseru District. The village was placed under quarantine, all the residents were given prophylactic inoculations, all

huts were disinfected with D.D.T. and rodent burrows treated with cyanogas. Specimens of fleas were taken and forwarded to the South African Institute for Medical Research but biological tests for the presence of *P. Pestis* yielded negative results. No further cases were reported at this village or elsewhere in the Territory.

In September, a report was received from the Deputy Chief Health Officer, at Bloemfontein, of a fatal case of plague in the Orange Free State and that samples of fleas from burrow scrapings in the Thaba 'Nchu area, where the case occurred, gave positive results to the biological test for the presence of plague. Accordingly a complete survey of the Basutoland — Orange Free State border from Morifi Drift (Cornet Spruit) in the Mohale's Hoek District to the Caledon Bridge at Maseru, was carried out by a team from the Department. Specimens of fleas were taken from burrows but all returned negative results to biological tests for the presence of *P. Pestis*. Villagers in the area were supplied with D.D.T. powder for dusting their huts, clothing, etc., and burrows were cyanogassed where practicable. The survey was extended to other inland areas such as Tšakholo, Thabana Morena, and others where plague had occurred in previous years. Nothing suspicious of plague was found anywhere in the area surveyed, and flea specimens submitted to the biological test were negative for plague. Several small scale experiments with "warfarin", a sorexa rodenticide were conducted and the conclusions reached were that the bait is effective against rodents in situations where food is not readily available, but that in grain stores rodents prefer natural foods.

Smallpox

No cases of smallpox were reported. 670 vaccinations were carried out during the year.

Typhus

No cases reported.

Diphtheria

From all over the Territory there were sporadic outbreaks of diphtheria totalling 428, the highest incidence being in the Maseru, Quthing and Mokhotlong Districts. The number of cases showed a decrease of 32 but the number of deaths increased by 29 compared with the 1951 figures. Over 26,000 prophylactic injections were given. As in previous years a large number of reports were received of suspected diphtheria cases, which were not confirmed on investigation. The Assistant Health Inspector and the Leprosy Inspector, Maseru, investigated several reports of diphtheria outbreaks in the mountain areas around Marakabei's and Mantšonyane in Maseru District where they gave diphtheria injections to the residents. In other districts similar action was taken.

Typhoid Fever

177 cases with 24 deaths were notified, a decrease of 63 cases, but an increase of three deaths compared with the 1951 figures. The out-

breaks occurred in a few villages of the lowland areas mostly in the Maseru District (49 cases) and Mafeteng (42 cases) and were controlled by prophylactic inoculations of T.A.B. vaccine of which some 5,800 were given in the Territory.

An outbreak of typhoid fever due to contaminated water supply occurred at Ntseka's village near Kolonyama, Teyateyaneng. The residents of the village were given T.A.B. injections and the water protected by being enclosed and piped to a reservoir. Pit latrines were built with fly proof box seats. No further cases were subsequently reported.

Pellagra

There were 2,012 cases with three deaths, reflecting a decrease of 120 cases and one death on the figures for the previous year.

Avitaminosis

441 cases were reported, 285 less than in 1951. Kwashiorkor is prevalent, though until the winter of 1949 it was not recognized as such, and cases were labelled variously "avitaminosis", "infantile pellagra", "nutritional oedema" and "malignant oedema". Steps are being taken for Medical Officers, both Government and Mission, to submit as from January, 1953, monthly returns of all cases presenting themselves at hospitals of ariboflavinosis, pellagra and kwashiorkor in order that worth while records of these conditions as they occur in Basutoland, may be obtained. To simplify the recording of these cases questionnaires are being prepared for distribution.

Tuberculosis

There were 459 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis diagnosed with 32 deaths compared with 705 cases and 34 deaths for the previous year. In addition 533 other cases of tuberculosis with 16 deaths, were reported.

Since August, 1952, eight cases of pulmonary tuberculosis have been treated with isoniazid in the following types: exudative (3 cases), productive (1 case) indurative (3 cases); and in 1 case of tuberculous adonitis. It is too early to assess the results of treatment, but it is proposed to treat more cases during 1953, as well as to follow up the cases at present under treatment. The results to date can tentatively be stated to be favourable in that half the cases returned a negative sputum within 4-6 weeks. If isoniazid is found to convert to negative the sputum in cases of pulmonary tuberculosis in a sufficiently high percentage, this effect would be of great public health importance.

The figures quoted above are taken from returns submitted by Government Dispensaries and do not include annual returns of statistics supplied by Mission Hospitals. The latter submit an annual report, but up to the end of 1952, they did not submit weekly notifications of infectious diseases owing to their remote situations. It has been arranged that from January, 1953, weekly notifications will be submitted by Mission Hospitals.

WATER SUPPLIES

Due to drought and poor rainfall during the year water supplies throughout the Territory were generally inadequate. 10 new springs were constructed in the Mokhotlong District. These springs took a considerable time to construct due to transport difficulties and the remoteness of the places. Two new springs were constructed and one repaired in the Leribe District. Four existing springs in the Maseru District were cleared, reconstructed and protected.

SANITATION

Sanitation arrangements are mainly of the bucket type, but indoor sewerage has been installed in a number of existing buildings and is being installed in all new European staff quarters in Maseru. It is hoped that all European staff quarters in Maseru and the majority in district headquarters will ultimately have water-borne sewerage with septic and effluent tanks cleared by a mechanical extractor.

During the year under review 2 stercus carts, were ordered at a cost of £155 each. One was provided for Mohale's Hoek and the other is to remain in Maseru as a spare in case of breakdowns within the Territory.

Butha-Buthe was supplied for the first time with a stercus cart. Hoohlo's Village at Maseru was granted sanitation during the year. For this purpose a new tractor and stercus cart were ordered and will be operating as soon as the Public Works Department has constructed the six public communal latrines.

Complete fencing material was despatched to Quthing to enable the sanitary farm to be fenced in.

The 500 pails ordered during the year were distributed to the districts on a pro rata basis.

It is hoped that cleaning slabs and oil baths will be completed at Mafeteng, Leribe, Maseru and Mohale's Hoek before the end of March, 1953.

New public latrines were erected at Mafeteng, Mohale's Hoek and Mokhotlong and two single lavatories were built at the dispenser's houses in Mafeteng.

LEPER SETTLEMENT

The general health continues to improve with the use of sulphone therapy and fewer deaths are recorded. Only Avlosulphone has been used.

There were 105 admissions of which 18 were recurrences, 13 were readmitted deserters and 74 were new cases, while 87 patients were

discharged. 557 remained at the end of the year of whom about 150 are old arrested cases, crippled and helpless and without a home. They are allowed to remain at the Settlement indefinitely.

The number of new cases remains fairly high, between 70 and 80 every year, in spite of the policy of compulsory segregation carried out since 1914. The disease appears to be held in check but has not been stamped out of the Territory.

GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS

<i>District</i>	<i>In-Patients</i>			<i>Out-patients treated in Dispensaries including those receiving injections for Syphilis</i>			
	<i>admitted to Hospital</i>	<i>Operations Major</i>	<i>Minor</i>	<i>First Attendances</i>	<i>Subsequent</i>	<i>Injections for Syphilis</i>	<i>Total</i>
Maseru. . . .	3,517	413	317	25,252	13,337	7,611	50,447
Leribe	1,610	224	832	19,134	6,806	4,634	33,240
Mafeteng . . .	1,604	72	1,054	18,653	11,572	5,278	38,233
Mohale's Hoek .	491	65	546	10,470	3,638	5,539	20,749
Qacha's Nek . .	642	18	105	3,797	146	1,428	6,136
Quthing	689	33	365	10,800	7,493	1,825	21,205
Teyateyaneng .	526	18	311	17,370	7,374	4,532	30,131
Mokhotlong . .	574	18	185	5,816	586	1,218	8,397
Butha-Buthe* (2 months) . . .	38	2	57	2,514	213	180	3,004
Totals for Govern- ment Hospitals .	9,691	863	3,772	113,806	51,165	32,245	211,542

MISSION HOSPITALS

<i>Hospital & No. of beds</i>		<i>In-Patients treated in Operations</i>			<i>Out-patients treated in Dispensaries includ- ing those receiving injections for Syphilis</i>			<i>Total</i>
		<i>Hospitals</i>	<i>Major</i>	<i>Minor</i>	<i>First Attendances</i>	<i>Subsequent</i>	<i>Injections for Syphilis</i>	
Roma	40	861	44	216	4,451	1,506	2,217	9,295
Paray (Ntaote's)	31	732	28	86	5,150	1,058	674	7,728
Maluti (Mapoteng)	43	513	67	102	2,158	1,277	—	4,117
Scott (Moriya)	32	695	30	211	11,266**	682	3,819	16,703
Totals.	146	2,801	169	615	23,025	4,523	6,710	37,843

* The District Surgeon at Butha-Buthe ceased Government work at the end of October. His figures are not available.

** Includes cases seen at outstations (fortnightly visit).

3. HOUSING

The Basuto live in small scattered villages under tribal authority and their huts are, on the whole, healthy if primitive. They are usually built of rough stone or of sods and are roofed with thatching grass or in some areas in the mountains with wheat straw. The floors are smeared by the women with mud and cow dung and frequently the inner and outer walls

are treated the same way. The walls are often decorated with traditional designs in various colours.

The traditional hut is circular in shape but nowadays many Basuto prefer to build rectangular huts which are in some cases roofed with corrugated iron. The wealthier people build houses of cut stone or of brick and buy stock size doors and glazed windows.

In the old days it was the custom for each man to build and thatch his own house but many of the younger generation have no knowledge of building. They are, therefore, compelled to hire others to do this work for them.

If a man wishes to build he asks his chief or headman for a site. Any building he may erect remains his property unless he leaves the village, in which case the chief may allocate it to some other person but at no charge. The original owner is, however, allowed to remove the doors and windows if he wishes to do so.

There are no factories or industrial undertakings, except three printing works in Basutoland, and the problem of housing industrial workers has not therefore arisen.

The small European population consists for the most part of civil servants, missionaries and traders, and is as a rule well housed in buildings of local cut stone. Since the war, however, Government departments and commercial enterprises have expanded and a number of houses in Maseru have been built of brick since it is quicker and cheaper to build with brick than with stone.

During the year a total of 17 European houses were either completed or under construction, 16 of these in Maseru and one at Quthing. The following African houses were either completed or nearing completion at the end of the year :

Qacha's Nek	. . .	8 houses
Quthing	. . .	5 houses
Maseru	. . .	13 houses (5 for Police)
Teyateyaneng	. . .	3 houses (2 for Police)
Butha-Buthe.	. . .	7 houses

4. SOCIAL WELFARE

As the Basuto live in small scattered village communities and there are no towns or industrial undertakings where workers of the poorer class are concentrated, there are no slums and no problems arising out of urban conditions such as exist in the Union of South Africa.

Much valuable work is being done throughout the Territory by youth movements such as Scouts and Guides and by the Homemakers Association. During the year the number of Scouts rose to 1,176. Difficulty is being experienced in getting Basuto trained as Scoutmasters ; this is mainly due to lack of funds. A contingent of 38 Basuto Scouts

attended the Jamboree held at Nkana in Northern Rhodesia. In the competition for the Jamboree Flag the Contingent was placed second out of 25 entrants. There are a total of 89 Guide Companies and 52 Sunbeam Circles with a membership of 1,567. Mrs. Arrowsmith, wife of the Resident Commissioner, has taken over the duties of Territorial Guide Commissioner.

Community Halls have been or are being built at all district headquarters. At each headquarters a committee of Africans was appointed to help the District Commissioner with the planning and building of the hall and to organize the activities which take place there. It is considered essential for the development of these halls as centres of social life that the activities should spring from the efforts and wishes of the people themselves.

A community Hall and Library were completed in Maseru in 1948.

The Financial Secretary acted as Chairman of the Pensions Board and the Assistant Treasurer of the Executive Committee of the Basuto Soldiers' Benefit Fund.

The Pensions Board consists of four members :

Chairman (Financial Secretary)

Two Civilian Medical Officers

Representative of the Paramount Chief

The Board meets weekly to consider the applications of disabled ex-soldiers and to make awards.

Soldiers' pensions vary between a maximum of £50 per annum to a volunteer with a 100 per cent disability and £10 per annum for a 20 per cent disability, with appropriate increases for a wife and each child. A widow receives £30 per annum and £10 per annum extra for each child. Men whose degree of disablement is assessed at less than 20 per cent receive a gratuity, the amount of which depends on the duration of the disablement.

The Basuto Soldiers' Benefit Fund was established out of contributions received from the Basutoland War Levy, the Governor-General's War Fund, and P.R.I. Funds of the contingents who served in the Middle East. The Fund totalled £24,873.

Applications for assistance are first considered by District Welfare Boards and are then passed with the Board's recommendation to the Executive Committee of the Fund.

During the financial year 1951-52, 118 applications were considered by the Executive Committee and 61 awards were made. These comprised 19 for educational purposes and 42 for other assistance, largely for rehabilitation, maintenance and relief of ex-soldiers and their dependants. £1,147 was paid out of the Fund during the year consisting of £303 for educational awards, £791 for other assistance and £53 for administration and incidental expenses.

CHAPTER EIGHT

LEGISLATION

The following is a list of the more important legislation in 1952.

1. Proclamation No. 1 of 1952. The Basutoland Wool and Mohair Marketing and Export Proclamation, which provides for the proper classing and packing of wool and mohair prior to sale. This ensures a higher standard for export purposes which in turn ensures higher prices being obtained.
2. Proclamation No. 56 of 1952. The Basutoland Education (Amendment) Proclamation which provides that members of the Central Advisory Board and District Advisory Committees will be appointed for three years. This brings these members' appointments in line with those of with National and District Council Members.
3. Proclamation No. 57 of 1952. The Basutoland Importation and Exportation of Livestock and Livestock Products Proclamation which requires the issue of certificates by the Veterinary Officer of the area of origin prior to importation or exportation. Previously animals imported into Basutoland were not required to have such a certificate and were liable to have come from diseased areas.
4. Proclamation No. 62 of 1952. The Basutoland Adoption of Children Proclamation which provides for legal adoptions throughout Basutoland. The Proclamation does not apply to Africans. No law on this subject existed previously.

CHAPTER NINE

JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS

1. JUSTICE

The laws in force in Basutoland include those of the Cape of Good Hope up to the 18th March, 1884, except where repealed or altered by Proclamation of the High Commissioner, who is empowered to make by Proclamation such laws as may be necessary for the peace, order and good government of the Territory. Accordingly, the common law of

the Territory is Roman-Dutch law, supplemented by statute law which is often based on that of the Union of South Africa. The Criminal Procedure and Evidence Proclamation is based on the South African Criminal Procedure and Evidence Act which is derived from English Criminal Law. Native Law and Custom in so far as it is not repugnant to the principles of justice and morality, or the laws of the Territory, is also in force.

The Basutoland Courts of Law consist of :

I. THE HIGH COURT

The High Court which constitutes the Supreme Court of Basutoland from which an appeal lies to the Privy Council. This Court, which superseded the Court of the Resident Commissioner, was constituted under Proclamation 57 of 1938. It is presided over by the Chief Justice of the High Commission Territories, and has jurisdiction in all cases, both civil and criminal, which arise in the Territory. The High Court is also a Court of appeal from all Subordinate Courts, and has full powers of review in respect of all proceedings of Subordinate Courts. When the High Court is not in session these powers are vested in the Judge. At any trial the Judge has the power to call for one or two Administrative Officers as Advisers, and one or more African Assessors to assist him, but the decision is vested exclusively in the Judge.

2. SUBORDINATE COURTS

OF THE FIRST, SECOND, AND THIRD CLASS

In the nine districts of the Territory, there are Subordinate Courts of the first class, presided over by the District Commissioner of each district, and also subordinate courts of the second and third class, presided over by Assistant District Officers and cadets, the limits of whose jurisdiction are clearly defined in Proclamation No. 58 of 1938. Appeals lie from these courts to the High Court of the Territory. Two Judicial Commissioners have now been appointed as full-time Magistrates to hold Courts of the first class in each district. District Commissioners are thus relieved of a certain amount of their Court work and have more time for their administrative duties.

The powers of these courts are as follows :

Criminal

(a) *First Class*: Presided over by a District Officer. Can impose sentences with or without the option of a fine up to a maximum of two years imprisonment with hard labour or a fine of £100. In certain cases a whipping not exceeding fifteen strokes with a cane may be imposed.

(b) *Second Class*: Are courts of an Assistant District Officer. The maximum sentence is imprisonment with hard labour for one year or a fine not exceeding £50. A whipping not exceeding eight strokes may be imposed in certain cases.

(c) *Third Class*: Are Courts of an Assistant District Officer (Cadet) with maximum jurisdiction limited to six month's imprisonment with hard labour or a fine of £10.

These courts have no jurisdiction to try as Courts of first instance any person charged with treason, murder, rape or sedition. A preparatory examination is held, and the record is transmitted to the Attorney-General who may decide inter alia :

- (i) Not to indict the accused.
- (ii) To indict the accused before the High Court.
- (iii) To remit the case to the District Commissioner for trial with or without increased jurisdiction.
- (iv) To remit the case to the District Commissioner for the hearing of further evidence.

During 1952, 4077 Criminal Cases were heard by the Subordinate Courts.

Civil

In civil cases, subordinate Courts of the First Class have jurisdiction in all actions where both parties are natives and all other actions where the claim or value of the matter in dispute does not exceed £500, and of the Second Class where the matter in dispute does not exceed £250. Subordinate Courts of the Third Class have no jurisdiction.

Criminal procedure in use in subordinate Courts is laid down in the Criminal Procedure and Evidence Proclamation (No. 59 of 1938) and Civil Procedure is laid down in the Subordinate Courts Proclamation No. 58 of 1938, and in the Rules issued thereunder and promulgated in High Commissioner's Notice No. 111 of 1943.

3. THE JUDICIAL COMMISSIONERS' COURTS

Two Judicial Commissioners have been appointed in terms of Proclamation No. 25 of 1950 to hear civil and criminal appeals from the Courts of the Paramount Chief. Formerly appeals from Basuto Courts were heard by District Commissioners, but they became so numerous that it was found essential to establish special courts to deal with them. They are courts of appeal for matters decided according to native law and custom and appeals from them to the High Court can be made with the permission of either the High Court or the Judicial Commissioner. For part of 1952 there has been only one Judicial Commissioner available.

4. BASUTO COURTS

Basuto Courts were formally recognised and given special powers and jurisdiction under Proclamation No. 62 of 1938. These Courts are established by a warrant issued by the Resident Commissioner with the approval of the High Commissioner, and may exercise civil and criminal jurisdiction to the extent set out in their warrants. They have no jurisdiction over any parties other than Natives as defined in the General Interpretation Proclamation (No. 12 of 1942). They deal mainly with offences against Sesuto Law and Custom and infringements of the Paramount Chief's orders, or those of Chiefs and sub-Chiefs, and with civil disputes. District Officers have access to Basuto Courts and the right to examine case records with powers of revision in the event of a miscarriage of justice.

The Paramount Chief's Court is a Court of appeal from the Courts of Ward Chiefs. Any person aggrieved by a decision of this Court may appeal to the Court of the Judicial Commissioner.

When the National Treasury was inaugurated on the 1st April, 1946, Native Courts were considerably reduced in number. Courts are now distributed in proportion to the population and are graded according to the number of tax-payers they serve. Thus a Ward Chief will have an "A" Court and in the area of a chief who has less tax-payers there may be a "B" Court. Under the old system the fines received from the Courts were taken by the Chiefs as a perquisite of their position, a practice which was obviously open to abuse, for as in mediaeval England "*justitia magnum emolumentum est*". With the inauguration of the National Treasury, however, all fines are paid into the National Treasury revenue. The Chiefs now receive fixed allowances and their Courts are presided over by Presidents with other officials to assist them who are all paid from Basuto Administration funds. There is no doubt that the reduction of Basuto Courts from over 1,300 to 106 has resulted in a more efficient and equitable system of justice.

Chiefs and headmen now have no judicial powers apart from those which may be conferred on them as members of Basuto Courts established by warrants issued by the Resident Commissioner with the approval of the High Commissioner. They may, however, act as arbitrators in the case of a civil dispute which neither party wishes to bring before the Courts.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE

The Chief Justice is also Chief Justice of the High Courts of Swaziland and the Bechuanaland Protectorate. He is resident in the Territory of Basutoland at Maseru.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

The Attorney General who is a practising member of the Johannesburg bar, acts in a similar capacity for both Swaziland and the Bechuanaland Protectorate. He is also legal adviser to the High Commissioner.

THE LEGAL SECRETARY

This post includes the posts of Master, Registrar and Sheriff of the High Court. The Legal Secretary is also local legal adviser to the Government and is responsible for the recording and transcription of the proceedings of the High Court and of the Basutoland National Council, and also for deeds registration, legislative drafting, control of the Legal Vote, the registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths, and the issue of law reports. He is also Registrar of Trade Unions (see Chapter Two).

REGISTRAR OF THE HIGH COURT

(a) Criminal Trials

During 1952 twenty-one trial cases involving eighty accused persons were heard by the High Court. Nine of these cases dealt with the crime known as "medicine murder", and involved sixty-seven accused persons, of whom thirty-six were found not guilty and discharged and thirty-one sentenced to death. Of these thirty-one none made application for leave to appeal to the Privy Council. The sentences of seventeen of these thirty-one persons were commuted to terms of imprisonment.

Seventeen accused persons were tried for murder (as opposed to medicine murder) and of these fifteen were found guilty of culpable homicide and two were found not guilty and discharged.

Two accused persons were tried for the crimes of culpable homicide and theft respectively. Both were found guilty. In the culpable homicide case the sentence was six months imprisonment without hard labour and a fine of one hundred pounds or a further six months without hard labour. In the theft case the sentence was one year imprisonment with hard labour.

A further "medicine murder" case was postponed to the next session of the High Court in order to enable the evidence of a medical officer to be taken on commission in the United States of America.

(b) Criminal Appeals

Eighty-five criminal appeals were dealt with during 1952; of these eighteen were allowed, fifty-seven dismissed, six struck off the roll (the appellants being in default), and three were withdrawn before hearing. One was postponed to the first session of 1953.

(c) *Review of Criminal Cases*

One hundred and eighty-nine Subordinate Court cases were reviewed by the Chief Justice. In two of these the convictions and sentences were set aside, and in a further four cases the sentences varied. Two cases were argued before the High Court by order of the Chief Justice. In the remaining cases the convictions and sentences were confirmed.

In addition to cases subject to automatic review, summarised particulars of sentences in all Subordinate Court cases were scrutinised in the Office of the Registrar of the High Court, until this procedure was abolished in July, 1952.

(d) *Civil Work*

Eleven civil applications and eleven civil appeals were dealt with.

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

The duties of the Master of the High Court include the supervision of the administration of the estates of persons (other than tribal Africans) who are deceased or who are lunatics, and also of the administration of all insolvent estates. He is also responsible for the administration of the Guardians' Fund.

REGISTRAR OF BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES

The Legal Secretary is responsible for the registration of births and deaths of persons other than Africans under the provisions of Proclamation No. 17 of 1947. Prior to this there was a voluntary system of registration governed by the Cape of Good Hope Act No. 20 of 1880.

During 1952, 37 births and seven deaths were registered.

The Legal Secretary is also responsible for the registration of marriages under Proclamation No. 7 of 1911. Two thousand two hundred and fifty-five were registered in terms of this Proclamation during 1952. This figure includes marriages by Africans but not customary unions according to Sesuto Custom, except where parties to such customary unions have subsequently been married by Marriage Officers appointed in terms of Proclamation No. 7 of 1911.

THE JUDICIAL COMMISSIONER

The Territory has two Judicial Commissioners — one for the Northern circuit and one for the Southern. In addition to hearing appeals from the Paramount Chief's Courts they also have jurisdiction to try criminal cases in all districts of Basutoland, thus relieving District Officers of a considerable amount of court work and enabling them to spend

more time on administrative work. For the latter part of 1952 there was only one Judicial Commissioner available. This, coupled with the increasing number of appeals to be heard from the Paramount Chief's Courts, led to District Officers having to spend more time on court work ; in the Maseru District 1,087 cases were heard during the year.

The number of appeals heard by Judicial Commissioners during the last five years has been :

1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
387	351	159	252	362

The total number heard by the Paramount Chief's Appeal Courts in 1952 was 1,045, compared with 1,083 in 1951.

The 362 cases heard by Judicial Commissioners in 1952 were disposed of as follows :

(The figures for 1951 are also given for comparison.)

	<i>Number</i>		<i>Percentage</i>	
	1951	1952	1951	1952
Paramount Chief's Courts Judgments upheld	130	172	56	48
Paramount Chief's Courts Judgments varied	16	—	7	—
Paramount Chief's Courts Judgments reversed	53	71	23	20
Remitted down for re-hearing	—	19	—	6
Struck off roll for want of prosecution	25	24	11	8
Various	6	23	3	7
Postponed	—	34	—	11
Total	230	343	100	100

<i>Petitions</i>	1951	1952
Allowed	5	7
Dismissed	16	9
Miscellaneous	1	3
Totals		

22	19
252	362

It is worthy of note that of the cases which were brought to the Paramount Chief's courts only six per cent had the judgment reversed on appeal to the Judicial Commissioners' Courts.

2. POLICE

The Commissioner of the Basutoland Mounted Police is the Departmental Head and Commanding Officer of the Force. He is responsible to the Resident Commissioner for its efficient administration.

The Commissioner is assisted at Police Headquarters by a Superintendent as Staff Officer, by a second Superintendent as officer in charge of the Police Training School, and a Superintendent in charge of the Criminal Investigation Division and Records Bureau.

For Police administrative purposes the Territory is divided into five Divisions, which in turn are comprised of nine Detachments. Detachment commands coincide with Administrative District boundaries.

In addition to his duties as second in command of the Force, the Deputy Commissioner is in command of a Division and controls the Detachment at the Capital of the Territory which is his Divisional Headquarters.

The remaining Divisions are each commanded by a Superintendent or an Assistant Superintendent, who in addition commands the Detachment at his Divisional Headquarters, and is responsible to the Commissioner of Police for the efficient administration and working of his Division.

The remaining Detachments contained within a Division are commanded by Superintendents or Assistant Superintendents who are responsible to their Divisional Commanders.

All Commissioned Officers of the Force are Europeans. The Inspectorate and non-commissioned ranks are recruited from the Natives of the Territory.

ESTABLISHMENT AND STRENGTH

The following shows the establishment and actual strength of the Force as at 31st December, 1952.

EUROPEANS

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Establishment</i>	<i>Strength</i>
Commissioner	1	1
Deputy Commissioner	1	1
Superintendents.	12	9
Assistant Superintendents		3
Assistant Superintendents Supernumerary .	2	—
Totals	<u>16</u>	<u>14</u>

AFRICANS

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Establishment</i>	<i>Strength</i>
Senior Inspector	1	1
Sergeant Major	1	1
Staff Sergeants	7	4
Sergeants.	15	12
Corporals	31	31
Lance Corporals.	Nil	27
Troopers	293	246
Totals	<u>348</u>	<u>322</u>

CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES

	<i>Establishment</i>	<i>Strength</i>
Lady Clerk (European).	1	1
Saddlers (African)	5	5
Totals	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>

TRANSPORT

The Force has an establishment of 11 motor trucks, 287 riding horses and 89 pack animals.

POLICE TRAINING SCHOOL

The Training Depot which is situated at Walker's Camp on the outskirts of Maseru, is commanded by a Superintendent. He has a staff of one Sergeant, one Corporal and two Troopers, one of whom is a driver. In addition to Recruits' Courses which are of six months' duration, there are facilities for holding various other Courses at the depot.

During the year under review twenty recruits were enlisted and completed their training. This was in addition to seventeen recruits who were in training at the beginning of the year. Of the total of thirty-seven recruits, two were discharged, two resigned at their own request and the balance of thirty-three were posted to various stations.

A special contingent of twenty-five Basuto were attested on contract for special duty as Constables in the Bechuanaland Protectorate Police. They were given an intensive course of foot and arms drill for five weeks before their departure to the Bechuanaland Protectorate.

The Training Depot was called upon to provide six Guards of Honour and Mounted Escorts during the year.

Between the months of July and November every possible assistance was given to Mr. Swain of Prestige Films Limited, London, in making a film of Basutoland. This included various aspects of the life and training of police recruits at the training depot.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION AND RECORDS
BUREAU

This Division is commanded by a Superintendent of Police directly responsible to the Commissioner. The African establishment is one Sergeant, three Corporals and seven Troopers, who, besides, staffing the Bureau, are available if necessary for special investigations. In addi-

tion to the normal work of the Bureau, it is responsible for the proper presentation of cases for the consideration of the Attorney General and for their final preparation for the High Court.

WORK OF THE POLICE

(a) *Border Posts*

The Force is responsible for the manning of 29 Border Posts, which have an establishment of three Non-commissioned Officers and 65 Troopers. They are mainly occupied with Customs duties, the collection of revenue and the enforcement of Government Regulations dealing with the export and import of livestock and grain.

(b) *Patrolling*

186,335 Men miles were covered during the year by 7,393 patrols of a total of 10,455 members of the Rank and File. A large proportion of this mileage was performed during the course of criminal investigations. The absence of 27 men in the Bechuanaland Protectorate on security duty in the Bamangwato Reserve from March to October, 1952, was felt in all Districts and, in consequence, less men patrolled fewer miles than in 1951.

(c) *Mountain Posts*

During the year the seventh Mountain Post reached completion stage ; the eighth operating with a skeleton staff will be completed by March, 1953. The effectiveness of these posts is illustrated in the number of crimes reported to them. They enable investigations to be started as soon as a report is made, thus enhancing the chances of a successful conclusion to a case.

CRIMINAL RECORD BUREAU STATISTICS

Fingerprint slips received from Basutoland Mounted Police Detachments and Thabang "A" Basuto Court numbered 9,530. These were classified and filed. 144 fingerprint dockets were opened during the year. Persons fingerprinted were all Africans.

CRIME

The contraventions or alleged contraventions of the Laws of the Territory reported to the Police during 1952 numbered 8,165. This figure excludes 584 cases which were pending at the close of 1951.

The cases were disposed of as follows :

Sent for trial.	4077
Transferred to Basuto Courts	2823

Withdrawn before arrest or issue of process .	503
Undetected	450
Found false on enquiry.	314
Not completed during the year	582
Total	<u>8749</u>

6634 persons were prosecuted, 3580 summarily convicted, 154 committed for trial, 2293 transferred to Basuto Courts, 338 discharged, and 269 remanded. 2714 crimes of a serious nature were reported during the year, representing 33·2 per cent of the total for all offences. 297 crimes under this head were brought forward from the previous year. 2708 serious crimes were fully investigated during 1952 and of these 1331 or 49 per cent were sent for trial. Of the remaining 1377 cases, 770 were transferred to Basuto Courts, 185 were withdrawn, 138 were found false on enquiry, and 284 or 10·48 per cent were undetected.

The following table shows the number of convictions for various crimes and offences during the last eight years :

<i>Nature of Crime in Magistrate Courts</i>	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
Offences against Person .	298	485	476	490	401	421	461	440
Offences against Property	433	594	416	558	594	707	1197	777
Offences against Liquor Laws	44	61	81	66	77	140	119	124
Other Crimes	824	834	984	1012	1069	1212	1610	2239
Totals	<u>1599</u>	<u>1974</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>2126</u>	<u>2141</u>	<u>2480</u>	<u>3387</u>	<u>3580</u>
<i>In Superior Courts</i>								
Murder.	5	8	35	48	7	30	13	33
Culpable Homicide . .	12	21	31	14	7	—	2	14
Attempted Murder . .	2	—	3	—	—	—	3	—
Rape	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Offences against Person	—	8	6	1	4	—	2	—
Offences against Property with violence to person .	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Other offences against property	—	—	4	—	1	3	4	1
Other Crimes	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Grand Total	<u>1620</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2037</u>	<u>2189</u>	<u>2160</u>	<u>2513</u>	<u>3414</u>	<u>3628</u>

The number of convictions for 1952 shows an increase of 214 over the figures for the previous year. Convictions for offences against the person increased by 6 and for offences against property decreased by 426. Convictions for statutory and other minor offences increased by 629, while those for offences against the liquor laws showed an increase of 5.

Stock theft convictions accounted for a decrease of 321 from 728 to 407 under offences against property. This decrease is attributed to the success of mountain stock theft patrols which were maintained during the year.

The increased convictions for statutory and other minor offences is not considered to be abnormal.

M E D I C I N E M U R D E R

Medicine murder was again the most serious crime the Police had to contend with in 1952. Fourteen cases were reported, an increase over the previous three years, and the second highest reported during any one year.

The resources of the Police were taxed to the utmost in dealing with the investigation of outstanding cases from previous years and the cases which came to the notice of the Police during 1952.

Three accused persons in a case outstanding from 1950 were convicted during the year. Thirty-eight accused in four cases outstanding from 1951 were sent for trial; four were convicted and thirty-four acquitted. Eight accused persons in a case reported during 1951 were remanded in the High Court. The Police withdrew the charge against 10 accused on account of insufficient evidence in two other cases reported during 1951.

Twenty-six accused persons in four of the 14 cases reported during the year under review were sent for trial. Of these 24 were convicted and two discharged. In five of the remaining cases 65 accused have been committed for trial. Against 26 of these the Attorney General entered a nolle prosequi. One case has been closed undetected and three are still under investigation. Eight accused have been indicted for trial in the remaining case.

A comparative Table showing the Medicine Murders reported since 1943 and the fluctuations during the past eight years is given hereunder :

<i>Year</i>	<i>Cases Reported</i>	<i>Increase over Previous year</i>	<i>Decrease over Previous year</i>
1943	4	1	—
1944	8	4	—
1945	6	—	2
1946	7	1	—
1947	6	—	1
1948	20	14	—
1949	5	—	15
1950	4	—	1
1951	9	5	—
1952	14	5	—

3. PRISONS

The establishment of the Basutoland Prison Service provides for a Superintendent and an Assistant Superintendent of Prisons, both of whom are Europeans. There are 14 Gaolers, 69 Warders and nine Technical Instructors, all of whom are Basuto.

There are ten prisons in the Territory, one being situated at each of the nine district headquarters. In Maseru, the old Gaol is no longer used except for condemned prisoners whilst the Central Prison now takes all the prisoners for Maseru District and many from other districts. The second wing and the kitchen block of the Central Prison have been completed ; the Senior African Gaoler's house and the third wing will be finished in 1953. The plans of the Central Prison provide for the segregation of males and females, the convicted and those awaiting trial, first offenders and recidivists, etc. Each cell will accommodate five prisoners. Minor buildings include a hospital ward and dispensary, a laundry, workshops, stores, visiting rooms, etc. There is a camp for young prisoners at the Gaol gardens in Maseru.

The total number of persons committed to prison during the year was 4958 of whom 3279 were sentenced to imprisonment. The total daily average population was 795·03 an increase of nearly 18 per cent on the previous year. Comparative figures for 1951 were, total committed 4295, sentenced to imprisonment 3007, daily average population 687·62.

In this Territory at present, a person who has not been to prison previously is counted as a first offender although many of these people may have been sentenced on one or more occasions to sentences other than imprisonment. The Basutoland Mounted Police have now opened a finger print branch and it is expected that information in regard to a prisoner's past history will in future be more accurate.

The number of persons received in prison during the year who were known to have been previously convicted was 583 as compared with 593 in 1951.

DISCIPLINE

A prisoner may receive remission of sentence up to one third for good conduct provided the sentence is not thereby reduced to less than 30 days. Discipline improved during the year. For breach of prison regulations there were 17 cases of additional imprisonment and ten cases of loss of good conduct remission. Comparative figures for 1951 were 27 and 20 respectively.

18 Prisoners escaped during the year of whom 14 were recaptured.

On the 31st December 1951, there were three persons in custody under sentence of death. During the year 1952 a further 31 have been sentenced to death. The outcome of the cases was as follows :

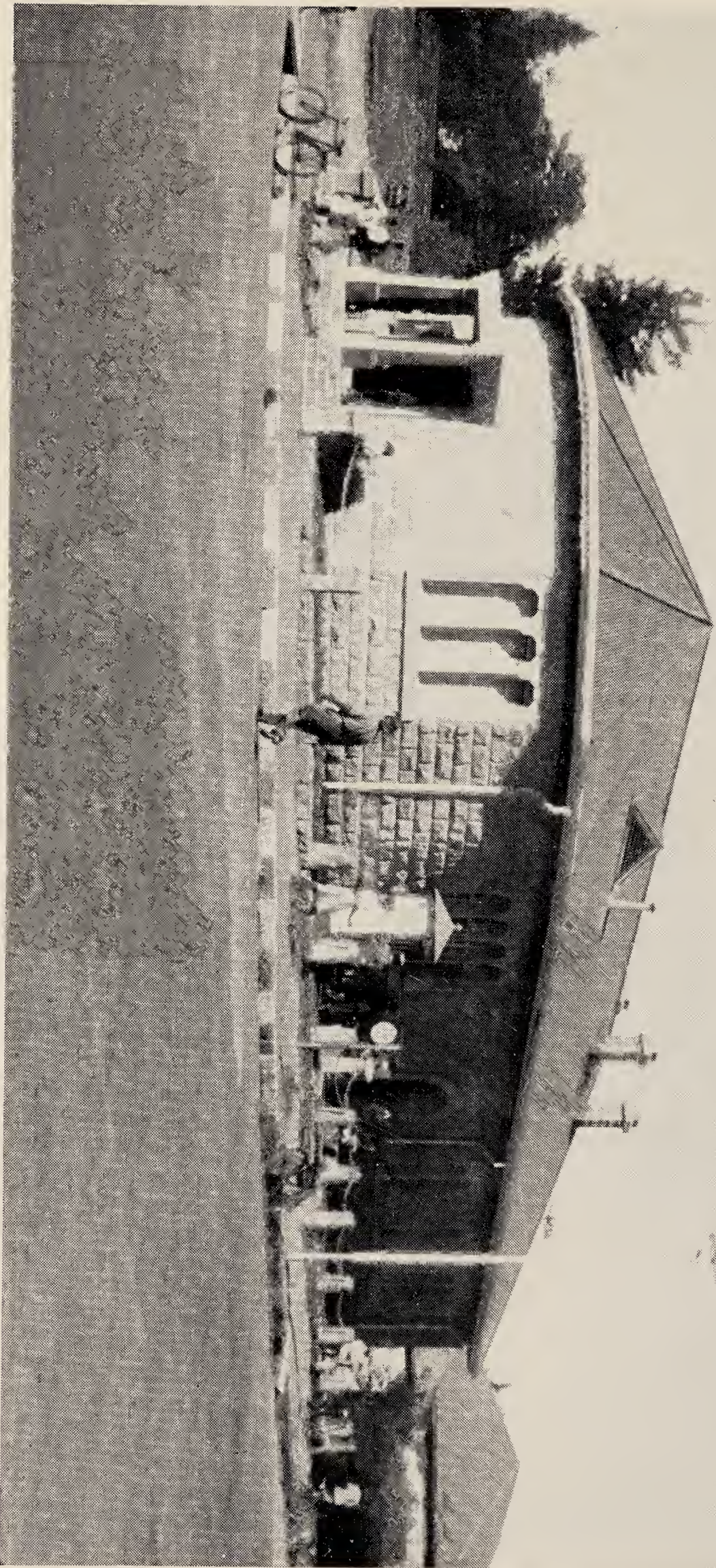
Executed	11
Sentence commuted to imprisonment	23
Total	<u>34</u>



Boy Scouts



Pivoting Rock near Teyateyaneng



Post Office, Masaru

H E A L T H

The general health of the prisoners throughout the year has been good. The daily average reporting sick was 9·6, a fair number of whom were merely asking for laxatives. There were 202 admissions to hospital and seven deaths, excluding executions. The corresponding figures for 1951 were, daily average sick 17·8, admissions to hospital 140, deaths two.

Diets are prescribed by regulation and are adequate. In any case where the Medical Officer considers increase of special diet necessary, this is provided.

There are no special Medical Officers appointed to prisons but the Government Medical Officer of each station is required to see all admissions and sick prisoners. He also inspects the prison and sees all inmates weekly.

In Maseru arrangements have now been made for the Medical Officer to visit the prison daily to see new admissions and sick prisoners. In other districts these people are taken to the Government dispensary.

There are no hospitals or sick bays in any of the prisons. Prisoners requiring hospital treatment are admitted to the local Government hospital. No special provision for prisoners is made in any of the hospitals ; prisoners occupy beds in the ordinary wards and have to be guarded day and night by warders. This is a duty for which it is often necessary to engage temporary warders. In the new prison, it is intended to build a small hospital.

L A B O U R

In the outlying districts labour is used for a variety of purposes mostly concerned with the domestic work of the gaols and the general upkeep of the District Headquarters. Prisoners are used to load and unload Government stores, to quarry and cart gravel for roads, for cleaning and gardening at hospitals, cleaning streets, planting trees, sanitation work etc. Every gaol has a garden which supplies most of the vegetables used in the prison. In some cases however these have to be augmented by supplies from Maseru gaol gardens.

At Maseru labour is supplied for street cleaning, the upkeep of the Residency grounds and hospital grounds and cleaning the police stables. Most of the prisoners are however employed in the various industries under the supervision of technical instructors. One of these is an Agricultural Demonstrator who is in charge of the prison gardens ; there are also a tailor, leather worker, three mason builders, two carpenters and a blacksmith.

The chief concern of the Department at the moment is the building of the new prison. This involves stone quarrying and dressing, brick-making, the making of doors and door frames, casting ventilators and

lintels in concrete beside the actual building, roofing, plastering and painting, etc. All this work is being done by prisoners under the instruction and supervision of the technical instructors.

As a result of a favourable season the prison gardens have produced 113,959 lb. of vegetables. In addition to the needs of the prison, the gardens supply the Government Hospital, Discharged Soldiers' Hospital, Teyateyaneng Gaol, and the Leper Settlement. Vegetables are also sent to other district prisons when their gardens are not producing sufficient. There is always a ready market for any surplus which is sold to the staff or the public. The gardens have been increased in size and it is hoped to install a further pumping plant for irrigation purposes in the near future ; this will greatly increase the yield.

All prisoners' clothing except jerseys is now made by the tailoring section. A knitting machine has recently arrived and it is hoped shortly to instruct prisoners in its use. The tailoring section has also undertaken work for other departments such as the manufacture of uniforms, wind-socks, typewriter covers, dusters, aprons, etc., and the repair of tents.

The leather work section makes boots for warders and prisoners and does footwear repairs. They have also made waistbelts, halters and other items of equipment.

The blacksmiths are chiefly occupied in making and sharpening tools for the stonemasons and builders and the ironwork for the new prison. They have however made some tools for other departments.

A piggery recently started with the dual object of teaching animal husbandry and using up waste from prisons and gardens is proving to be a success.

SPIRITUAL WELFARE

There are no chaplains attached to the prison but Ministers of all denominations are allowed and encouraged to visit the prisons and to hold services or talk with prisoners on matters affecting their spiritual welfare. These Ministers all give their services voluntarily.

During the year a number of new hymn books, prayer books, New Testaments and Bibles were purchased for the use of the prisoners of the various denominations.

WOMEN PRISONERS

Women prisoners, except those serving very short sentences, are transferred from the outside prisons to Maseru.

There is a permanent female staff at Maseru consisting of one female gaoler and six female warders.

As there are often no women prisoners in the smaller prisons, no permanent staff is employed. When there are females in custody they are guarded by temporary female warders, often the wives of permanent warders.

During the year 335 women were received into prison and of these 217 were sentenced to imprisonment either with or without the option of fines. Included in the total were 34 lunatics. Six of the 335 had previous convictions. Comparative figures for 1951 were: total received: 283, sentenced to imprisonment: 216, lunatics: 31.

The women prisoners at Maseru are employed as follows: laundry work and cleaning at the Government Hospital and Dispensary, making and repairing prison clothing, work in the prison garden such as weeding, planting and hoeing similar to the type of work that they would perform in their own homes.

CHAPTER TEN

PUBLIC UTILITIES AND PUBLIC WORKS

BUILDINGS

During the year the position in regard to artisans and materials improved considerably and it was possible to carry out a comparatively large building programme. The building staff consisted of an Architect, a Building Superintendent, three Works Staff Grade I and two Works Staff Grade II.

A total of 17 Government European quarters were either constructed or under construction during the year, 16 in Maseru and one at Quthing, and a total of 36 African houses were also completed. A new Veterinary Clinic, extensions to the Preparatory School, a new timber store for the Public Works Department were under construction in Maseru. A new Post Office and office for the Agricultural Department were completed at Quthing, together with numerous other minor building works at Mokhotlong, Mohale's Hoek, Mafeteng, Teyateyaneng and Leribe. A new hospital at Butha-Buthe was completed and constructed by contract, and plans were also prepared and materials purchased for a new hospital at Maseru.

WATER

All water supplies in Maseru and district centres are owned and operated by Government. Apart from the Maseru supply which is pumped from the Caledon River augmented by springs, all District supplies are piped from springs and boreholes.

The new Maseru water supply operated satisfactorily but again showed that the demand is in excess of the supply, and arrangements have, therefore, been made for investigations to be carried out with a view to possible extensions next year.

In the districts two new boreholes were drilled at Quthing, one yielding 1,500 gallons per hour and the other approximately 750 gallons per hour. This is quite satisfactory for the size of the village, but funds are not at present available to equip them. In all district headquarters an acute shortage of water was experienced during the summer months. Plans for new water supplies at all these centres are being considered.

Apart from the Government supplies the normal source of water for the Basuto villages and trading stores is from springs although a small number of traders and missionaries have sunk successful shallow boreholes giving comparatively small yields.

ELECTRICITY

The only electricity supply in the Territory is at Maseru and was purchased by Government in 1948. The current supplied is 220 volts A.C. Tenders for the installation of a new power station at Maseru financed by loan funds were received and approved towards the middle of the year. Due to the general rise in prices, however, the estimated cost has risen from approximately £65,000 to approximately £78,000.

During the year the power station buildings were completed and the installation of machinery, new power lines and cables progressed under contract. Considerable delay, however, was experienced before the contractors could start work, and the shortage of certain parts has delayed the operation of the first section which will now not begin before April, 1953.

It is anticipated that the new power station will need extensions in 1956, and details of these with estimates are at present being prepared.

CHAPTER ELEVEN

COMMUNICATIONS

RAILWAYS

The Territory is linked with the railway system of the Union of South Africa by a short line from Maseru to Marseilles, on the Bloemfontein — Natal main line. From this junction it is possible to proceed by rail direct to Bloemfontein or Bethlehem, and from these junctions respectively to the cities of Cape Town and Johannesburg, and to Durban. One mile of the line is in Basutoland. The railway does not at any other point enter Basutoland, but runs along the boundaries of the Territory and goods are transported by road to and from the nearest railway station across the border.

The Road Motor Transport Department of the South African Railways runs regular services to the lowland districts.

R O A D S

The greater part of Basutoland is very mountainous and in this area all transport is effected by use of pack animals.

On the western side of Basutoland there is a strip of agricultural country from North to South in which a fairly good road system has been developed. The main roads, totalling approximately 500 miles, traverse the whole of this area, with branches leading west to the principal points of exit. Nearly all the roads are gravelled and carry motor and ox-wagon traffic in all weather. There are, however, a number of un-bridged rivers and streams which, during flood periods, may delay travellers for some hours.

From the main roads a number of feeder roads lead towards the interior. By-roads to trading centres and missions start from these feeder roads and penetrate still further into the interior. Feeder roads are maintained by the Government, and during the year a certain amount of gravelling has been carried out and particular care taken to improve drainage at the same time.

The by-roads are maintained by traders and others to whose stations they lead, and annual Government grants are made towards their upkeep.

On the eastern side of Basutoland, in the Qacha's Nek District, there is a short road system, similar to that described above, and the standard reached is much the same as that on the western side of the Territory.

During the year two heavy motor graders and one mechanical shovel were put into operation and the roads are already showing a marked improvement. The amount of machinery available, however, is short of requirements. Work has started on the re-alignment of the road from Mafeteng towards Maseru. A re-alignment was also completed at the approach to Matsieng, and a two span bridge constructed. A new two span bridge was constructed at the approach to Mohale's Hoek and a three mile re-alignment with two bridges was almost completed on the Teyateyaneng-Leribe road near Peka. Work on the new Mountain Road from Maseru to Ntaotes progressed satisfactorily over very difficult country up to mile 28.

B R I D L E P A T H S

There are approximately 1,600 miles of bridle paths in the Territory, which are now maintained by the Basuto Administration with advice from the Public Works Department.

A V I A T I O N

There are only two recognized aerodromes in Basutoland and these are for the lightest type of aircraft. They are at Maseru, the capital, and Mokhotlong, the district headquarters in the Drakensburg mountains.

In addition there are a number of landing strips in the Territory used principally by traders for the transporting of merchandise to and from their stores.

P O S T S

Basutoland post office administration is linked with that of the Union of South Africa, and maintains its own distinctive postage and revenue stamps. There is a full postal service in the lowlands whilst agencies are largely situated in the mountains where mail can only be carried by pack animals. The telephone and telegraph system at present is confined to the lowlands. A bi-weekly air mail service connecting Ladysmith (Natal) — Mokhotlong — Maseru is in operation to accelerate the disposal of mail for the mountain areas.

The policy of the Post Office, which is headed by a Controller of Posts and Telegraphs, is to consolidate and improve existing services until sufficient money is available to begin a planned system of expansion.

During the year under review the air mail service was augmented to serve Lebiha Falls in the Maseru District and certain agencies in the Qacha's Nek District. Three postal agencies were upgraded to the status of postal, telegraph and telephone agency whilst one post office was downgraded to that status. Two new postal agencies were established in the mountain areas. Over 50 additional subscribers were connected to the existing telephone system. In the Maseru township the laying of cables to replace overhead lines was almost completed. The reconstruction of the Teyateyaneng — Butha-Buthe telegraphic trunk line is progressing satisfactorily. The employment of Basuto women as telephone operators has proved most satisfactory and extended use is being made of their services.

The Maseru — Mokhotlong — Mashai — Qacha's Nek departmental radio link continues satisfactorily to serve the needs of the public in the remote mountain areas. To afford relief to traders and mission stations in similar areas not within the departmental link and to which the normal post office telephone system cannot be extended, several licences for private radio-communication were issued.

CHAPTER TWELVE

PRESS

Three papers are published in the Territory in Sesuto. These are *Mochochonono*, *Moeletsi oa Basotho* and *Leselinyana*. The first is published by the Bantu Press Limited and the other two are Mission papers. They are weekly publications.

In addition to these there is the newspaper *Mphatlalatsane*, which is published by the Bantu Press in Johannesburg mainly for the interest of the Basuto community living there. It is also distributed in Basutoland. Slip copies of special articles, particularly on agricultural, medical and educational subjects, are obtained in bulk and distributed throughout the Territory in Sesuto.

The only English newspaper is the *Basutoland News*, a weekly publication which deals with the interests of the European Community. It is published at Ficksburg, a town on the border of Basutoland.

PART III

CHAPTER ONE

GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

The Colony of Basutoland is an enclave within the Union of South Africa, its boundaries running with those of Natal Province to the East, Cape Province to the South, and the Orange Free State to the North and West. It lies between latitudes $28^{\circ} 35'$ and $30^{\circ} 40'$ South and longitudes 27° and $29^{\circ} 30'$ East. It comprises an area of 11,716 square miles of which about one-quarter in the West is lowland country varying in height above sea level from 5,000 to 6,000 feet, the remaining three-quarters being highlands rising to a height of 11,000 feet in the Drakensberg Range, which forms the eastern boundary with Natal. The mountain ranges run from North to South and those in the central area, named the Maluti, are spurs of the main Drakensberg Range which they join in the North, forming a high plateau varying in height from 9,000 to 10,500 feet. It is this area, where two of the largest rivers of the Union, the Orange and the Tugela, and tributaries of the Caledon have their source, that has caused Basutoland to be called the "sponge" of South Africa.

The soils in the mountain area are of basaltic origin, and those in the lowlands are derived mainly from the underlying cave sandstone. In the lowlands the soil has been cropped continuously for upwards of 80 years. Due to the absence of fuel practically all of the cattle manure is burnt, so that little or no organic matter is returned to the land : thus, with the increasing population, both human and livestock, excessive demands have been made on the soil which has lost its structure and has become subject to serious erosion. The soils in the mountains have been brought into cultivation comparatively recently and are rich, though shallow. Owing to former uncontrolled grazing the areas situated above the arable land in many places became denuded of the grass cover, and the rush of surface water from those denuded areas caused serious gully erosion on the arable land situated below. The measures which have been and are being taken to control erosion and to restore and preserve the grass cover are described earlier in this report.

CLIMATE AND RAINFALL

Rainfall is variable and averages apporoximately 28 inches a year over the greater part of the country. Most of it falls in the months from October to April, but there is normally no month which has less than half an inch. Serious droughts, like the one of 1948-1949 are rare and there are a large number of perennial streams, though not so many as existed some years ago. Unfortunately river discharge statistics show that most of this water is lost to Basutoland in the form of run-off. The deciding factors from an agricultural point of view are whether the rain comes at intervals suited to the growth of the staple crops and whether it comes in the form of short and heavy storms, running to waste and eroding the soil, or in steady, soaking showers. In the lowlands the temperatures vary from a maximum of 90 degrees or more in summer to a minimum that rarely drops below 20 degrees in winter : in the highlands the range is much wider and temperatures below zero are by no means unknown.

CHAPTER TWO

EARLY HISTORY

The Basuto as a nation did not come into prominence until 1818, when Moshesh, a minor chief of the Bakoena tribe in North Basutoland, gathered together the remnants of the various clans that had been scattered by the raids of the Zulu and Matabele.

The new nation went through many vicissitudes of fortune, first with the emigrant Boers of the Great Trek, and then with the British under General Cathcart in 1852. From 1856 until 1868 there was a series of wars with the Orange Free State burghers, and, being hard pressed and having lost a large portion of his country (now known as "the Conquered Territory"), Moshesh repeatedly sought the protection of the British Government.

His request was eventually granted, and the Basuto became British subjects in 1868. Part of the Proclamation issued by Sir Philip Wodehouse, the Governor of the Cape Colony, on 12th March, 1868, reads as follows :

"Now, therefore, I do hereby proclaim and declare that from and after publication hereof, the said tribe of Basuto shall be, and shall be taken to be British subjects, and the territory of the said tribe shall be, and shall be taken to be British territory."

The country remained in a very unsettled condition until it was annexed to the Cape Colony by an Act of the Cape Legislature, No. 12 of 1871. The Act expressly declared that the territory was not to be subject to the general laws of the Colony, and gave the Governor power to legislate for it by proclamation and to extend to it by proclamation any Cape Act not otherwise in force therein.

The people never took kindly to the Cape Colonial rule, and after various disturbances the Government of the Cape, in 1880, extended to Basutoland the provisions of the Cape Peace Preservation Act of 1878, which included a clause for the general disarmament of the Basuto. They refused to accept the terms and, after a war lasting nearly a year, an agreement was arrived at under which the Act was repealed and certain fines were paid by the Basuto.

Although outwardly peace was restored, there still remained several chiefs who would not submit, and it was eventually decided by the Government of Cape Colony to hand over the administration to the Imperial Government. This was effected by Order in Council of 2nd February, 1884, which was proclaimed and brought into force by Proclamation No. 75A of 18th March, 1884. This proclamation defined the boundaries of the Territory and restored it to the direct control of the Queen through Her Majesty's High Commissioner for South Africa.

CHAPTER THREE

ADMINISTRATION

CONSTITUTIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE

The Territory is governed by a Resident Commissioner under the direction of the High Commissioner for Basutoland, the Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland, the latter possessing legislative authority, which is exercised by proclamation promulgated in the Official Gazette. Until 1931 the office of the High Commissioner was held by the Governor-General of the Union of South Africa, but with the close of the Earl of Athlone's period of office the two posts were separated.

The executive posts of the Government, other than those of the Resident Commissioner and Government Secretary, are held by Heads of Departments and District Officers who are responsible to the Resident Commissioner for the good order and administration of their respective spheres. For administrative purposes the country is divided into nine districts under District Commissioners, stationed at Butha-Buthe, Leribe, Teyateyaneng, Maseru (the Capital), Mafeteng, Mohale's Hoek, Quthing, Qacha's Nek and the mountain station of Mokhotlong.

These districts are divided into wards and smaller areas presided over by principal chiefs, ward chiefs, chiefs, and headmen who are responsible to the Paramount Chief in all matters relating to law and custom. All chiefs are hereditary and are descended from the house of Moshesh or from allied families.

Heads of Departments are the Financial Secretary, Director of Medical Services, Director of Livestock and Agricultural Services, Director of Education, Government Engineer and the Commissioner of Police. In 1947 the Prisons Department was separated from the Police and is now under the control of a Superintendent of Prisons.

A Judicial Commissioner was appointed in 1943 to deal with civil and criminal appeals from the Paramount Chief's Court, and a Registrar and Master of the High Court was appointed in 1944. A second Judicial Commissioner was appointed in 1950 in terms of Proclamation No. 25 of 1950. Both Judicial Commissioners now have power to hold criminal cases, in addition to civil cases, in all districts of the Territory, the idea being to relieve District Commissioners of some of their judicial work and to enable them to devote more time to their administrative duties.

A F R I C A N A D M I N I S T R A T I O N

Basutoland is an African territory without European settlers or land-owners and is governed under the system of "indirect rule". The Basuto owe allegiance to a single Paramount Chief under whom is a hierarchy of Chiefs and Headmen, a number of whom trace their descent to Moshesh (1785-1870), the founder of the Basuto nation, and are styled "The Sons of Moshesh". This feudal aristocracy claimed and exercised considerable powers and privileges.

An advisory body known as the Basutoland Council, constituted by Proclamation in 1910 and consisting of the Resident Commissioner as President, the Paramount Chief and 99 Basuto members, 94 of whom are nominated by the Paramount Chief and five by the Resident Commissioner, meets once a year to discuss matters affecting the domestic affairs of the Nation and to express its opinion on any draft laws and proclamations that may be laid before it by the President. Until such time as Basutoland has its own Legislative Council, it is the policy of the Government to consult the Paramount Chief and the Basutoland Council before Proclamations closely affecting the domestic affairs and the welfare of the Basuto people or the progress and development of the Basuto Administration are enacted.

In recent years developments of some political importance have taken place. In 1938 a Native Administration Proclamation and a Native Courts Proclamation were promulgated. The former recognised the Paramount Chief and his Subordinate Chiefs as an integral part of the Government of the Territory, defined their powers, and vested them with legal authority, while the latter extended similar recognition to the Basuto Courts and defined and extended their jurisdiction. Further

developments were delayed by the outbreak of war, until, in accordance with resolutions passed at the 1943 session of the Basutoland Council, a District Council was established as an advisory and consultative body in each of the nine districts into which the country is divided for administrative purposes. These District Councils give the people a voice in the management of local and national affairs. The majority of the members are elected by popular vote at local *pitsos* (assemblies) and two to five members of the Basutoland Council, resident in each District are nominated by the Paramount Chief to sit as District Councillors.

These District Councils meet once a year shortly before the session of the Basutoland Council and elect members who are nominated by the Paramount Chief for appointment as members of the Basutoland Council. At first each district elected one member only, making a total of nine members for the whole Territory. In 1948 the number was increased to four members per district with a corresponding reduction in the number of members not so elected. Both in the Basutoland Council and District Councils provision was made for the election of members to represent important sectional bodies such as the Agricultural Association, the Progressive Association, the Teachers Association and the Basuto Traders. As a result of these changes 42 out of the 99 members of the Basutoland Council are now elected by popular vote and an important step has therefore been taken towards placing the Basuto Administration on to a more representative basis. Members of both the Basutoland Council and District Councils now hold office for three years. As a means whereby the Basutoland Council could be consulted when not in session, a Standing Committee, consisting of five of its own members elected by Council, was established and to this Committee, whose discussions are attended by the Resident Commissioner and Paramount Chief, all important questions are referred when Council is in recess. At the 44th Session of the Council it was recommended that three permanent advisers to the Paramount Chief should be elected by Council and effect has been given to this resolution, it being left to the Paramount Chief to choose the three advisers from a panel of eighteen elected by the Council.

A further necessary step in the development of the Basuto Administration, the establishment of a National Treasury, was taken in 1946. At the end of 1943 a Committee consisting mainly of Basuto was appointed to work out a scheme for the establishment of a National Treasury, and its proposals were published in a booklet which was widely distributed throughout the Territory. The proposals put forward were not confined to the establishment of a National Treasury, but included the reorganisation of the Basuto Courts, entailing a reduction in their number from over 1,300 to about 130. Recently this number has been further reduced to 107.

It was also recommended that the long established practice of chiefs and others being remunerated by "eating" the fines their courts imposed, and by the proceeds of the sale of unclaimed stray stock, which had led to abuse, should be abolished. It was proposed that chiefs and

others engaged in carrying out the administrative, judicial and fiscal duties which are now undertaken by the Native Administration should be paid fixed allowances or salaries by the National Treasury into which would be paid all court fines and fees and the proceeds of the sale of stray stock. These proposals were accepted by the Paramount Chief on the recommendation of the Basutoland Council in 1945.

The political and administrative reforms set out in the preceding paragraphs are regarded as essential preliminaries to undertaking any comprehensive scheme of development, if plans are to be carried out efficiently and economically with the good will and co-operation of the Basuto Authorities and the people, and if the social and economic advance made is to be of lasting value to the life of the community.

Nevertheless it was not to be expected that these major political changes, however necessary and beneficial in the main and in the long run, could be achieved without causing some dissatisfaction and disharmony amongst those most closely effected by them. In his Report to the Secretary of State on the recent outbreak of "Diretlo" or Medicine Murders in Basutoland, Mr. G.I. Jones has analysed the historical influences and the effects of Government policy which have in some ways weakened the traditional system of rights and obligations which bound the chieftainship and the people together. It must, however, be recognised that such development is fraught with difficulties, as it must reconcile the need for increased participation and representation in the conduct of affairs with the oft-repeated pledge to support and make the best use of the chieftainship, in which the Basuto society and outlook remain deeply rooted.

CHAPTER FOUR

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

The weights and measures in common use in the Territory are the British Imperial.

The Cape Act of 1858 which defines the standard of weights and measures according to the English Act of 1824 still applies in Basutoland in terms of Proclamation No. 4 of 1904.

CHAPTER FIVE

READING LIST

I. GENERAL

- The Basutos*, by Sir Godfrey Lagden, K.C.M.G., 2 volumes (Hutchinson).
History of the Basutos, by D.F. Ellenberger and J.C. Macgregor.
The Basuto of Basutoland, by E.A.T. Dutton (Jonathan Cape).
The Basutos or Twenty-three years in South Africa, by Rev. Eugène Casalis.
The Basuto of Basutoland, by A. Mabile.
Basuto Traditions, by J.C. Macgregor.
Reminiscences, by J.M. Orpen.
Basutoland Records, 1833-1868, by G.M. Theal, 3 vols.
Fourteen Years in Basutoland, by Rev. J. Widdicombe.
The Basuto, by Hugh Ashton (Oxford University Press, 1952).
The Rise of the Basuto, by G. Tylden (Juta, 1950).

2. GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

- Report on the Financial and Economic Position of Basutoland*, Cmd. 4907 (H.M. Stationery Office).
An Ecological Survey of the Mountain Area of Basutoland (Crown Agents, 1938).
Explanatory Memorandum on the Basutoland National Treasury (1944).
How Basutoland is Governed, by K.W.S. Mackenzie (1944).
Judgment of Mr. Justice Lansdowne in 'Mantsebo vs. Bereng (1943).
The African and his Stock, by R.W. Thornton, C.B.E. and W.G. Leckie, O.B.E. (1942).
Anti-Erosion Measures and Reclamation of Eroded Land, by R. W. Thornton, C.B.E. (1942).
Five Years Experimental Work on Wheat Production, by H.C. Mundell (1942).
Memorandum of Development Plans (1946).
Laws of Lerotholi (Revised Edition, 1946).
Memorandum on "The Adoption of Better Methods of Land Management and the Declaration of Agricultural Improvement Areas in Basutoland", by W.G. Leckie, O.B.E. (1945).
Report on the Geology of Basutoland, by G.M. Stockley (1947).
Report of the Commission on Education in Basutoland (The Clarke Report, 1946).
Report on the Possibilities of the Development of Village Crafts in Basutoland, by H.V. Meyerowitz.

Forestry Aims in the High Commission Territories, by O.B. Miller (1947).
The Origin and History of the Basuto Pony, by R.W. Thornton, C.B.E.
and others.

Basutoland Census, 1946.

*Report on the Salaries and Conditions of Service in the Public Services of
the South African High Commission Territories*, 1947-1948.

*Memorandum on the Report on Salaries and Conditions of Service in the
Public Services of the High Commission Territories*.

*Basutoland Medicine Murder: A report on the recent outbreak of "Diretlo"
Murders in Basutoland*, by G.I. Jones, Cmd. 82,09 (H.M. Stationery
Office 1951).

Basutoland: Agricultural Survey, 1949-50, by A.J.A. Douglas, M.B.E.
and R.K. Tennant.

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